FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 MARCH 1984

Lebanon

Political Situation — The National Salvation Front is preparing a working paper for the National Dialogue Conference and the Phalange Party soon will consult with its allies to formulate a unified stand for the conference, Beirut radio reported. Meanwhile, Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri discussed issues related to the conference in separate meetings with President Amin al-Jumayyil and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, the radio noted.

In another development, a Libyan official statement broadcast by Tripoli radio announced Libya's intention to resume political relations with Lebanon "now that the causes that led to freezing them have been removed after the tearing up and burning of the document of submission." The statement praised President al-Jumayyil's "courage, wisdom, and patriotism."

Security Situation — The security situation "collapsed" on 7 March as fighting resumed between the Lebanese Army and its opponents in and around Beirut, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. While the radio blamed the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and its allies for the renewed clashes, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain Radio held the Christian side responsible. Meanwhile, U.S. journalist Jeremy Levin disappeared in Beirut "under mysterious circumstances," according to Beirut radio. Citing "security reports," Voice of Lebanon radio said Levin was kidnapped by PSP gunmen who entered the Commodore Hotel in West Beirut.

Syria

The Ba'th Party Regional Command in Damascus has decided to appoint Rif'at al-Asad, Zuhayr Mashariqah, and 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam as vice presidents, Voice of Lebanon radio announced. Rif'at al-Asad will be responsible for military and national security affairs, Mashariqah will be concerned with internal and party affairs, and Khaddam will deal with political affairs, according to the radio. Reporting on the "divergences among the Ba'thist authorities" and the "succession" issue and saying that President Hafiz al-Asad is still "overworking himself," Radio Free Lebanon said Foreign Minister Khaddam is aligned with Army Chief of Staff Hikmat ash-Shihabi against Rif'at al-Asad, the president's brother. As for the expected cabinet changes, Jerusalem radio's Arabic service speculated that the president may replace Defense Minister Mustafa Talas with Rif'at al-Asad, thereby consolidating the power of the 'Alawite sect.

Meanwhile, in an *AL-BA'TH* interview reported by SANA, Defense Minister Talas affirmed that Syria has made progress in achieving a strategic balance with the "Zionist enemy" in order to face all challenges.

Israel

A spokesman for Abu Nidal's "terrorist organization" based in Damascus claimed responsibility for the 7 March bomb explosion aboard a bus in Ashdod, Jerusalem radio announced. According to a Baghdad Voice of PLO radio account of the incident, a "group of our revolutionaries" carried out a "daring operation" against an Israeli "military bus." Damascus radio attributed the attack to "Palestinian resistance men" operating in the occupied territories.

PLO Affairs

A routine meeting of the Fatah Central Committee began on 6 March in Tunis in the presence of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, QNA reported. According to an "informed Palestinian source," the committee members heard a report from 'Arafat on his recent talks with Jordan's King Husayn and discussed future "political moves" including the possibility of another visit to Jordan by 'Arafat to meet with the PRC President Li Xiannian, QNA added.

Jordan

A Jordanian-Palestinian move is possible in the "very near future" although Jordan and the PLO thus far have not discussed any particular plan, King Husayn revealed in an interview broadcast by Amman television. The recent Jordanian-Palestinian talks were aimed at organizing bilateral relations and defining the "ideal image of these relations in the future after liberating the land," he said.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq has proposed the convening of an Arab foreign ministers meeting in Baghdad on 13 March to discuss the current "serious situation" which endangers the entire Arab region, INA announced citing a letter sent by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. The letter said that Iran's aggression against Iraq had "very seriously escalated" in recent days by means of "successive offensives" in an attempt to penetrate Iraq's borders and occupy its territory. 'Aziz warned that this aggression is merely a "prelude" to imposing Iranian control over other parts of the Arab region as well.

Meanwhile, Iranian forces "severely crushed" a second Iraqi counteroffensive launched on 7 March in the southern part of the Majnun Islands by eight brigades, an Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio announced. More than 700 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded in the attack and a large amount of weaponry and equipment was destroyed, the communique added. Iranian forces are currently in "full control" of the

Majnun region. The city of Abadan again came under Iraqi artillery fire sustaining greater damage than during previous days, the Iranian Armed Forces Joint Staff communique broadcast by Tehran radio on 7 March reported. According to IRNA, Iraq has launched 130 "missile" attacks, 320 air raids, and over 1,500 artillery barrages against Iranian residential areas during the course of the war.

The Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique, carried by Baghdad radio on 7 March, reported the successful completion of 177 combat missions by its helicopter gunships, during which two Iranian helicopters were shot down and a third damaged. Iranian artillery continued to shell the residential areas of Basra, Mandali, and Khanaqin, the communique added.

Inter-Arab Affairs

GCC Foreign Ministers — The GCC foreign ministers will hold their 10th meeting in Riyadh on 10 March to discuss the political situation in the Arab and Gulf regions, particularly the Iran-Iraq war, the Lebanese crisis, relations between the two Yemens, and military cooperation among the GCC members, SPA reported citing a "responsible source" at the GCC General Secretariat.

Libyan-Egyptian Relations — Libya is "ready to open its border" with Egypt provided Egypt reciprocates in kind, AFP announced citing remarks by Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Meanwhile, the People's Committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau, in a statement reported by JANA, reiterated the conditions surrounding Egypt's return to the ICO. If the Egyptian Government continues its commitment to the Camp David accords, then the resolution suspending its ICO membership will remain valid, the statement stressed.

Nuclear Energy Agreements

The Iraqi atomic energy organization signed a contract on 7 March with a Soviet atomic energy establishment with the aim of choosing a site for a nuclear electric power station, INA announced.

Meanwhile, an Egyptian-Italian protocol on nuclear cooperation was signed in Cairo on 7 March by the two countries' foreign ministers, Cairo radio announced. According to the agreement, Italy will contribute 40 percent of the cost of building a nuclear power station in the Ad-Dab'ah area, the radio added.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 047 *8 March 1984*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat Chairs Fatah Meeting in Tunis 8 Mar *[INA]* ..... A 1
QNA Report ..... A 1
AKHBAR AL-USBU Reports on Upcoming PNC Session *[8 Mar]* ..... A 1
'Arafat May Meet PRC Leader in Amman *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 1
'Arafat Organizes PLO's Amman Cadres *[Amman AR-RA'Y 7 Mar]* ..... A 1
Baghdad PLO Radio on Retaliation Against Israel ..... A 1
Baghdad PLO Radio Comments on Agreement Abrogation ..... A 2

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Foreign Ministers to Meet in Riyadh 10 Mar *[SPA]* ..... C 1

BAHRAIN

Information Minister on GCC Cooperation *[AL-YAWM]* ..... C 1
Amir Receives Cable From Supreme Soviet Presidium ..... C 1

PDRY

Official Spokesman on 17 May Agreement Abrogation ..... C 1

QATAR

Minister Comments on Scrapping May 17 Agreement ..... C 1
AR-RAYAH Praises Abrogation of 17 May Agreement ..... C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Minister Receives French Trade Official ..... C 2
Prince Sa'ud Receives U.S. Envoy, Others ..... C 2
Commentator on Abrogation of 17 May Agreement ..... C 2
Press Lauds Abrogation of Lebanon-Israeli Accord ..... C 2
Lebanese Reconciliation Prospects After Abrogation ..... C 3

UAE

Somali Foreign Minister Leaves Abu Dhabi for Home ..... C 4
Foreign Minister Receives Saudi Message ..... C 4
Minister Receives Message From Iraq's 'Aziz ..... C 4
Farm Cooperation Pact To Be Signed With Hungary *[Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES 7 Mar]* ..... C 4
Satisfaction Expressed Over 17 May Abrogation ..... C 5
Press Welcomes Annulment of 17 May Agreement ..... C 5

YAR

Delegation Leaves for Meeting in Tripoli *[QNA]* ..... C 5

EGYPT

Reportage on Visit by Italy's Andreotti ..... D 1
Meets Mubarak, Makes Statement ..... D 1
'Ali on Andreotti Talks ..... D 1
Muhyi ad-Din, Andreotti Discuss Mideast ..... D 2
Nuclear Cooperation Protocol Signed ..... D 2
Andreotti Leaves for Khartoum ..... D 2
Al-Jumayyil Phones Mubarak on Lebanese Developments ..... D 3
Mubarak Congratulates Syria's Al-Asad ..... D 3
Foreign Trade Minister Meets SFRY, Indian Officials ..... D 3
Paper Cites Al-Qadhdhafi on Opening of Border ..... D 3
Somalia's Samantar on Relations With Ethiopia ..... D 3
Maldivian Foreign Minister Leaves Cairo ..... D 3

IRAQ

Government Calls for Arab Foreign Ministers Meeting ..... E 1
President Receives Arab League's Klibi ..... E 1
Klibi on Region's Development ..... E 1
Armed Forces Issues Communique No 1,397 — 7 Mar ..... E 1
Envoy to Turkey Warns of 'New Arms' in Gulf War *[Istanbul HURRIYET2 Mar]* ..... E 2
Daily Warns Iran Against New Attacks ..... E 2
Minister Confers With Turkish Official ..... E 3
President Receives Jordan's Al-Qasim 7 Mar ..... E 3
Planning Minister on Development Projects ..... E 3
INA: Lebanon Ba'th Official on 17 May Abrogation ..... E 3

JORDAN

King Husayn's TV Interview on Current Issues ..... F 1
Al-Qasim Returns From Short Visit to Baghdad ..... F 6
Parliament Committee Discusses Political Issues *[AR-RA'Y 8 Mar]* ..... F 6
AR-RA'Y on Abrogation of 17 May Agreement ..... F 7
Briefs ..... F 7
New Brazilian Ambassador

LEBANON

Preparations for National Dialogue Conference ..... G 1
Birri Receives Invitation ..... G 1
Comments on Representation ..... G 1
Salam Receives Invitation ..... G 1
Druze Offer Principles *[Voice of Arab Lebanon]* ..... G 1
Al-Hariri Returns to Beirut, Meets Al-Jumayyil ..... G 1
Birri Receives Saudi Envoy ..... G 1
Salam Contacts Al-Asad, King Fahd 7 March ..... G 2
Al-Wazzan Cables Congratulations to Al-Asad ..... G 2
Foreign Ministry Clarifies Resignation Report ..... G 2
Shams ad-Din Sends Notes to UNSC Members ..... G 2
Papal Envoy Leaves After Seeing Al-Jumayyil ..... G 2
Libya Seeks To Resume Diplomatic Relations ..... G 2
Airport may Reopen 9 March; Schools 12 March ..... G 2
U.S. Journalist Reported Missing in Beirut ..... G 2
VOL: 'Socialists' Kidnapped Journalist ..... G 3
'Uthman Views Security With Karami, Franjiyah ..... G 3
Mufti Khalid Meets with Security Officials ..... G 3
French Forces To Help Monitor Cease-Fire ..... G 3
Amal Urges Increased UN Force, Coexistence ..... G 3
VOAL on Attempts To Frustrate Chamber Session ..... G 3

Karami Interviewed by Kuwait AL-WATAN ..... G 3
Guardians of Cedar Oppose Accord Abrogation *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 4
RFL Reports Further on Syrian Power Struggle ..... G 4
VOL on 3 New Syrian Vice Presidents ..... G 4

SYRIA

USSR's Chernenko Cables Al-Asad on 17 May Abrogation ..... H 1
Defense Minister on Regional Strategic Balance *[AL-BA'TH]* ..... H 1
Lebanon's Salam Congratulates Al-Asad on Abrogation ..... H 1
Somali Minister Conveys Barre Message to Al-Asad ..... H 1
Commentary on Arabs' Victory Over U.S., Israel ..... H 1
TISHRIN Hails Abrogation of 17 May Agreement *[4 Mar]* ..... H 2

ISRAEL

Shamir Blames Egypt for Deadlock in Relations ..... I 1
Further on Shamir Remarks ..... I 1
Al-Asad To Urge Cancellation of Camp David *[MA'ARIV 7 Mar]* ..... I 2
Abu Nidal Organization Claims Ashdod Explosion ..... I 2
Minister Burg on 'TNT', Police in Territories ..... I 2
High Court Forbids Lawyer To See Suspects ..... I 3
'Huge' Arsenal Uncovered Near Jerusalem *[THE JERUSALEM POST 8 Mar]* ..... I 3
Consultations Continue on IDF Redeployment ..... I 3
Knesset Defeats Motion To Investigate Lebanon War ..... I 3
West Bank Officials Attend Knesset Debate ..... I 4
Witnesses Criticize Territories Courts ..... I 4
Further on Arab Testimony ..... I 4
David Levi Receives Lebanese Christians ..... I 4
Cabinet Split on IDF Line in Lebanon *['AL HAMISHMAR 7 Mar]* ..... I 5
Further Talks With Al-Jumayyil Predicted *[HA'ARETZ 6 Mar]* ..... I 6
Jerusalem Sources Predict Long Stay in Lebanon *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 6 Mar]* ..... I 6
Chief of Staff Against Rapid IDF Withdrawal ..... I 7
Lubrani: No Lebanese Message on Security Agreements ..... I 7
Al-Jumayyil Proposes Armistice-Like Security Talks *[DAVAR 8 Mar]* ..... I 8
Government Protests U.S. Contacts With PLO *[DAVAR 8 Mar]* ..... I 8
Jordanian Military Buildup Near Syria Reported *[HA'ARETZ 8 Mar]* ..... I 8
Sidon Port Remains Closed for 4th Day ..... I 8
IDF, Sidon Merchants Meet ..... I 8
Unemployment Statistics
Subsidized Food Prices Rise
Soviet Jewish Emigration

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

OAU Council of Ministers Closing Session Reviewed *[PANA]* ..... P 1
Onu Assesses Results *[APS]* ..... P 1

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Iranian Foreign Minister To Pay Official Visit ..... Q 1
Briefs: Envoy to France ..... Q 1

LIBYA

Ties With Lebanon To Resume, Beirut Mission Reopen ..... Q 1
Continued Reportage on Bulgaria's Zhivkov Visit ..... Q 1
Al-Qadhdhafi, Zhivkov Banquet Speeches ..... Q 1
6 March Evening Talks ..... Q 4

People's Committee Reminder on Egypt ICO Membership ..... Q 4

MOROCCO

Minister Reports on OAU Council Meeting ..... Q 5

SUDAN

President Receives Reagan's Message of Support ..... Q 5

EAST AFRICA

KENYA

Energy Minister Biwott Receives Soviet Ambassador ..... R 1

SOMALIA

Foreign Minister Jama Barre Returns From UAE ..... R 1

UGANDA

Government Denies Involvement in Kenya Coup Attempt ..... R 1

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Yodeyman Stresses Need for National Reconciliation *[AFP]* ..... S 1

ZAIRE

Moroccan Envoy Brings Message from Hassan ..... S 1

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Rawlings Address Envisages National Assembly ..... T 1
Rawlings Receives Message From Kampuchean President ..... T 3

MALI

ANC, SWAPO Delegations To Meet With Beye 6 Mar ..... T 3

NIGERIA

Council of State Sets Inquiry on Maitatsine Rioting ..... T 3
FMG Donates Aid ..... T 4
Increased Security in North ..... T 4
Gongola Returning to Normal ..... T 4
Army Warns Against Violence ..... T 4
Borno Police Ban Preaching ..... T 4
Religious Tolerance Advised ..... T 5
Idiagbon Sees Progress in Rescheduling Debt ..... T 5
National Debt Figures Released ..... T 5
Further NPN Kickbacks Revealed ..... T 5
Sale of Crude Oil to Ghana To Be Resumed *[Accra]* ..... T 6
Buhari Receives Two Outgoing Envoys 7 March ..... T 6
More Vigorous Approach Pledged on W. Sahara ..... T 6
Niger State Repatriates 84 Illegal Aliens ..... T 6

SENEGAL

Interior Ministry Refutes Mauritanian Exile's Charges ..... T 6
Briefs: 3 Ambassadors Present Credentials ..... T 7

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Sees No Need for RSA Nonaggression Pact ..... U 1
Dos Santos Receives Spanish Trade Official ..... U 1
Clemency Granted to 7 British 'Mercenaries' ..... U 1
MPLA's De Almeida on Official Visit to Yugoslavia ..... U 2
Party Delegation To Attend Cyprus CP Conference ..... U 2
UNITA 23 Feb Raid on Kafunfo 'Colossal Victory' *[Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel]* ..... U 2

BOTSWANA

BDP Officials Criticize Opposition Parties ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Veloso Reviews Terms of RSA Nonaggression Pact ..... U 2
Significance of Agreement Assessed ..... U 3
France's Penne Brings Machel Message From Mitterrand ..... U 3
Briefs: Netherlands Donates Aid ..... U 3
Joint Portuguese Commerce Organization

NAMIBIA

Nujoma Denies SWAPO Holding Prisoners in Zambia *[Umtata Capital Radio]* ..... U 4
Security Forces Report Killing 5 SWAPO Insurgents ..... U 4
3 Die in Rietfontein *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 4
Additional Details *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 4
2 More Deaths Reported *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 4
RSA Charged With Illegally Holding Internees *[Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL 7 Mar]* ..... U 4
DTA Leader Calls on SWAPO To Join Conference *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 5
PLAN Claims Attack on S. African Base in Northwest *[Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia]* ..... U 5

SOUTH AFRICA

RSA-Mozambique Nonaggression Pact Signing 16 Mar ..... U 5
Johannesburg Views Dos Santos Comments on Pact ..... U 6
Labor Party Seen Supporting New Constitution ..... U 6
Ministers Say Separate Residential Areas To Remain ..... U 6

ZAMBIA

Exports To Be Developed; MP Criticizes Government ..... U 6
Soviet Delegation Arrives in Kitwe for Tour ..... U 7

ZIMBABWE

Steps Taken To Distribute Food in Matabeleland ..... U 7
Trade Protocol Signed With Angola on Beef Exports ..... U 7

'Arafat Chairs Fatah Meeting in Tunis 8 Mar

JN081020 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Tunis, 8 Mar (INA) — An INA correspondent has learned that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat presided over a plenary meeting of the Fatah Central Committee here today. A responsible Palestinian information source told the correspondent that during this meeting the Central Committee will fix the final date for the convocation of the PNC's next ordinary session in the light of the contacts the Central Committee members have recently held in this regard. The source said that the PNC meetings will most likely be held during the first week of next month. The source denied that these meetings will be held in Tunis at the end of this month, emphasizing that they will be held in Algiers in response to an official Algerian invitation extended to the PLO.

QNA Report

GF072054 Doha QNA in Arabic 1925 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Tunis, 7 Mar (QNA) — The Fatah Central Committee meeting started a 3-day round of its ordinary meetings in Tunis yesterday evening in the presence of Mr Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman. The QNA correspondent in Tunis has learned that the Central Committee listened to a report from Mr Yasir 'Arafat on the results of his recent talks with King Husayn of Jordan in Amman regarding Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the joint action to support the steadfastness of the Palestinians inside the occupied land as well as the political move on various levels in international and Arab arenas.

An informed Palestinian source told the correspondent that the commitee discussed the political move that will be made by Mr 'Arafat and a number of the Central Committee members including the possibility that the Central Committee chairman may make a new visit to the Jordanian capital in order to meet with the Chinese president who will begin an official visit to Jordan soon, as well as the possibility of visiting Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries during this month.

He added that the committee also listened to a report from Mr Khalid al-Hasan, member of the committee and head of the PNC Foreign Relations Committee, on the activities and the contacts he made last week in France with a number of French and European officials and parliamentarians and which concentrated on how Europe could play a distinctive role in resolving the Middle East crisis. The committee will continue its meetings today and tomorrow in order to review the results of the efforts that are currently being made in order to convene the PNC and Fatah's fifth general congress as well as to assess the situation in the Palestinian, Arab and international arenas.

AKHBAR AL-USBU Reports on Upcoming PNC Session

JN080835 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 8 Mar 84 p 24

[Text] *AKHBAR AL-USBU'* has learned that the PNC will hold a session during the last week of this month. An informed Palestinian source informed *AKHBAR AL-USBU'* that the agenda for the next PNC session is being finalized. The source asserted that during the PNC's meetings, the dissidents — those who raised arms against their brothers, and those who deviated through their words and ideas — will be removed from the Palestinian consensus. The source added that new members will be elected, the PNC will be expanded, and a new PLO Executive Committee will be formed under Yasir 'Arafat.

'Arafat May Meet PRC Leader in Amman

JN081253 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Chinese President Li Xiannian will arrive in Amman today on a 6-day official visit to Jordan. PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will return to Amman within the next few hours to meet with the Chinese president. Informed sources in the Jordanian capital say that King Husayn will receive 'Arafat during this visit. However, the Jordanian and Palestinian leaders are not expected to hold a detailed dialogue on the topics discussed during the PLO chairman's recent visit to Amman — a visit which has constituted a new starting point for the resumption of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue on the future of bilateral relations and stands toward supporting the inhabitants in the occupied territories and dealing with the Middle East political settlement plans.

'Arafat Organizes PLO's Amman Cadres

JN071111 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 7 Mar 84 p 18

[Text] Amman — *AR-RA'Y* has learned that during his visit to Jordan, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat adopted a number of decisions to reorganize the organs and cadres of the PLO in Amman. It has been learned also the PLO chairman approved the resignation of 17 employees of the PLO's cadres in Amman. They will be replaced by new persons including some strugglers who were released from the Israeli jails in the recent POW exchange that took place between the PLO and the Israeli enemy.

Baghdad PLO Radio on Retaliation Against Israel

JN080745 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1627 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Unattributed Commentary]

[Text] Our citizens in the occupied homeland can retaliate equally to Zionist terrorism and with the same degree of violence. This has been proven by today's daring operation in Ashdod. Three days ago, a bus carrying Palestinian workers returning from their work was passing near Ramallah. Suddenly, fire was opened at the bus and six workers were wounded. Of course, the occupation security authorities makes every endeavor to uncover any operation against a Zionist individual but they make no effort at all to uncover operations of Zionist terrorism against Palestinian citizens. Such Zionist terrorist operations are identical to the Israeli government policy, regardless of the false games that we see, games such as arresting a number of settlers and releasing them afterwards because nothing had been proven against them. This is how it always happens. First of all there

were attacks on West Bank mayors, then came the Hebron University massacre, the killing of the female child 'Aysah al-Bahsh, and finally all the Zionist settlers' acts of killing and terrorism against our kinfolk, their properties, and holy shrines in the occupied homeland. Anyway, nobody even expected the occupation authorities to stand on our kinfolk's side, because they are the authorities of occupation, eviction, and killing. We must not look at these authorities differently. However, we can retaliate. This is how the incident in Ashdod took place.

An explosive charge went off inside a bus carrying Zionists, killing 2 and wounding 10, as the enemy spokesman admitted. The enemy, whether represented by the Israeli government, army, or gangs of settlers, must understand that our people are able to retaliate. More than this, the enemy must understand that actually we are not retaliating to a terrorist act by a commando operation. If this seems to be a reactionary move it is not like this when we come to details. Our revolution was originally established on the principle of retaliating to the killings, harassment, and humiliation to which our people were subjected. But later, the revolution made a decision to fight the enemy wherever it exists and in whatever form it takes. This must be through commando operations within a revolutionary initiative. Our people do not expect the enemy to halt its terrorist acts against us, and similarly the enemy must also not expect us to halt our commando operations against it. This is the equation. Naturally, the Ashdod operation is one in a series of our commando initiatives to fight the enemy and within our firm decision to escalate armed struggle. The enemy must expect similar operations tomorrow or the day after in Haifa or Tel Aviv, or any other part of our occupied Palestine. It is the enemy who claimed that it can wipe out the PLO and the Palestinian revolution. It also thinks that through terrorism, it can evict our people who are staying put in their land. Thus, the enemy must bear the consequences of such a claim and belief. Our people are capable, our revolution is continuing, and the PLO will pursue action on a large scale. This is what the Ashdod operation shows and what the operations in Tel Aviv, Haifa, and every part of Palestine will show too.

Baghdad PLO Radio Comments on Agreement Abrogation

JN070801 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1606 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] The Lebanese Government's abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is certainly an important step on the path of confronting U.S. moves, which try to make the imperialist will the fate that governs the region through imposing hegemony over, and by defying, the nationalist and pan-Arab will of the peoples of this region. Undoubtedly, the abrogation of this agreement has come as a result of the heroic Lebanese nationalist forces' confrontation of the Zionist invasion forces in southern Lebanon and the U.S. Marines and the facist Lebanese forces in Beirut.

Regardless of whether the Lebanese president was forced to abrogate the agreement or not, we believe that his step constitutes an attempt to check the general and comprehensive deterioration that has struck the region in recent years. Regardless of our awareness of the fact that the U.S. plan has no limits and that U.S. policymakers have alternate plans for every plan, and that they may manuever in order to achieve their objectives, we also believe that the abrogation must be encouraged and blessed. Furthermore, every effort to erase the traces of the agreement must be supported.

However, we must make the point here that this step is not final; that is, it is not an objective that is disconnected with past and future consequences. Therefore, it is necessary to develop this step in order to reach a comprehensive Lebanese national solution that puts highest consideration on the Lebanese nationalist forces' interests. We in the Palestinian revolution believe that the abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, which is a necessary step, would not have taken place had it not been for the daily and heroic struggle of the joint forces in southern Lebanon — which caused heavy losses among the Zionist forces and forced them to withdraw. This joint struggle and Israeli withdrawal permitted the Lebanese nationalist forces to face other confrontations. Furthermore, this important step would not have taken place had it not been for the increasing national feeling among the Lebanese masses, influenced by the great Palestinian-Lebanese steadfastness against the U.S.-Israeli enemy in 1982 for a period of 3 months during which the joint forces displayed a miraculous steadfastness. These masses expressed this steadfastness in Tripoli through defending the revolution and their rights to freedom, and practicing their armed struggle against the Zionist invasion and the U.S. plan to subjugate the region.

The United States announced through its officials that it failed to achieve its objectives in Lebanon. This failure is a result of the struggling Lebanese people's resistance. What is required is upgrading this struggle in order to reach an alliance comprising the Lebanese-Palestinian-Arab revolutionary forces to confront the Zionist enemy, which represents the central link for achieving imperialist ambitions. What is also required is that the agreement must be an essential starting point to prevent the partition of Lebanon and to safeguard the unity of its land and people. The importance of the abrogation of the agreement lies only in these results.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Foreign Ministers to Meet in Riyadh 10 Mar

LD071521 Riyadh SPA in English 1200 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Riyadh, March 7, SPA — Foreign ministers of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council are scheduled to hold their 10th meeting here on Saturday to assess the political situation in the Arab region in general and the Gulf in particular. A responsible source at the Council General Secretariat said the ministers discussions will concentrate on the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in Lebanon. The source said the ministers will also discuss relations with the two parts of Yemen and the outcome of GCC interior ministers meeting.

The source said the meeting's agenda include also the outcome of the GCC defence ministers 3rd meeting in Doha last month and the resolutions it has adopted for boosting military cooperation and coordination between the six members. He said the meeting will also discuss recommendations of the GCC foreign undersecretaries which aim at achieving more coordination at the political and diplomatic fields.

Regarding the economic sector, the meeting will review the implementation of the joint economic agreement whose second phase has started last March, the source said. The meeting is also scheduled to discuss resolutions adopted by the Science and Technology cooperation Committee, Industrial cooperation committee and the Agricultural cooperation committee, the source said.

BAHRAIN

Information Minister on GCC Cooperation

GF080706 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0635 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Ad-Dammam, 8 Mar (WAKH) — Bahraini Information Minister Tariq 'abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad has stressed the importance of information coordination among the GCC countries to deal with the challenges currently facing the Gulf information sector. In a statement published in the Saudi newspaper *AL-YAWM* today, the Bahraini information minister said the circumstances in the Arab and Islamic nation are very serious and this requires more information coordination among the Gulf countries.

Al-Mu'ayyad described relations between Bahrain and Saudi Arabia as exemplary, noting that coordination between them is consistent with joint Gulf action. He also praised the Kingdom's concern — under the leadership of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz — for playing its role within the Gulf, Arab, and Islamic framework due to its economic and political importance. The Bahraini information minister described Saudi Arabia's role as efficient and said that it has had good results in dealing with many pressing issues.

Amir Receives Cable From Supreme Soviet Presidium

GF081050 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] His Highness the Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah has received a thank you cable from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet in reply to his condolences cable to it on the death of the late Soviet leader, Yuriy Andropov.

PDRY

Official Spokesman on 17 May Agreement Abrogation

GF071800 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] An official spokesman has stated the following: With great satisfaction, the PDRY Government has received the Lebanese Government's decision to abrogate the 17 May agreement which was imposed on the Lebanese people by the United States and Israel. The PDRY Government believes that the abrogation of the agreement is an important factor in strengthening the unity of the Lebanese people's struggle and their national movement in order to put an end to the Israeli occupation, preserve Lebanon's unity and safeguard its Arabism and independence.

The abrogation of the agreement affirms the failure of the imperialist and Zionist circles and their capitulatory plan. It also proves our Arab peoples' capability to foil the various conspiratorial plans intended to suppress the national liberation struggle of the Arab peoples and usurp their legitimate rights.

The PDRY Government hopes that the Lebanese Government's decision to nullify the 17 May agreement opens the way for further steps in the course of achieving the Lebanese national unity and safeguarding Lebanon's independence.

QATAR

Minister Comments on Scrapping May 17 Agreement

GF071154 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Doha, 7 Mar (WAKH) — Qatari Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani has stated that Qatar, which was following up the developments of the tragedy of fraternal Lebanon with anxiety, hopes that the decision of the Lebanese Government to abrogate its agreement with Israel will open a new chapter that will enable all the Lebanese factions to end their schism. In a statement to QNA, he commented on the developments in Lebanon, indicating that Qatar is confident that the Lebanese brothers are capable — through the second stage of the national reconciliation conference — of reaching a common formula that includes restoration of security and stability to their country and unification of the people's ranks so that they can play their normal role in the Arab community. Concluding his statement, he said that Qatar, like the other sisterly Arab countries, looks forward to the day when Lebanon returns to its former state of being free and united.

AR-RAYAH Praises Abrogation of 17 May Agreement

GF061205 Doha QNA in Arabic 0725 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Doha, 6 Mar (QNA) — Gulf papers today praised editorially the step undertaken by Lebanon to scrap the 17 May agreement signed with the Zionist enemy. The papers expressed hope that this be a step leading to national dialogue and to ending the Lebanese crisis. The Qatari newspaper *AR-RAYAH* said that the abrogation of the agreement was in accordance with the demands of the nationalist powers and all the Arab and nationalist powers. The paper pointed out that the signing of the agreement was the result of an existing situation, particularly the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. That is why it was an agreement of submission between a strong side that imposes its opinion through the power of an occupation forces and a weak side that is only backed by the U.S. blessing.

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Minister Receives French Trade Official

LD071211 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1125 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Riyadh 7 Mar (SPA) — The foreign minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal had a meeting this afternoon with the French minister of foreign trade and tourism, Edith Cresson, who conveyed to His Highness a message from the French President, Francois Mitterrand to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. His Highness also had a meeting with the Sri Lankan minister of trade and tourism [title as heard], Lalith Athulathmudali.

Prince Sa'ud Receives U.S. Envoy, Others

LD071528 Riyadh SPA in English 1247 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Riyadh, March 7, SPA — Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud Al-Faysal received here today the new American Ambassador to the Kingdom Walter Ketler who submitted to him a copy of his credentials prior to their submission to HM King Fahd. Prince Sa'ud also received today the Iranian charge d'affairs in the Kingdom Mujtabi Hashimi. Later today Prince Sa'ud received the visiting French Foreign Trade and Tourism Minister Mrs Edith Cresson who delivered to him a message from the French President Francois Mitterrand for His Majesty King Fahd. The meeting was attended by the French ambassador to the Kingdom. Prince Sa'ud received separately today the visiting Sri Lankan trade and tourism minister and the ambassadors of Somalia and Mauritania to the Kingdom.

Commentator on Abrogation of 17 May Agreement

LD062256 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Commentary by Husayn al-Askari]

[Text] Lebanon has announced the cancellation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement signed on 17 May 1983. The cancellation means that the practical steps to rescue Lebanon have begun. This was stated by former Lebanese prime minister Rashid Karami, one of the opponents of the agreement. In the light of the decision of the Lebanese president to cancel the agreement, reactions varied on the international arena, but in the Arab world these reactions were unanimous in saying that Lebanon has begun the road leading to ridding itself of its tragedy. As to the other party of the agreement, namely the Israeli enemy, the taste of his disappointment was very bitter since his reaction was described as hysterical, which makes those who lose their mind and nerves utter meaningless words. It goes without saying that the enemy's reaction came laden with tension and anger.

The enemy who invaded Lebanon 2 years ago came with the aim of imposing a fait accompli not just on Lebanon, but also on the entire Arab nation in order to force it to comply with his terms. Now that the enemy has realized that he is unable to deal separately with Lebanon and dictate to it his terms through occupation of its territory, it was only natural that the enemy should try to belittle the ability of Lebanon to confront its tragedy of which the Israeli pressure was one of its main elements. The enemy realizes full well that his threat of continuing to occupy the south cannot possibly serves his purposes, because the nature of the structure of the enemy's body does not allow him to stretch so that he can remain in southern Lebanon indefinitely since any stretch in his body would tear him apart; hence the secret behind the enemy's anger and his disappointment with Lebanon's cancellation of the 17 May agreement, the fact which has burnt all the cards of the enemy and returned him to the starting point.

Under such circumstances, the positive return is in favor of Lebanon since it can now complete the march of its security and safety with the conviction of its sons who have in fact started to prepare to end the problem at its roots and to achieve unity that will save Lebanon and its people from every harm and evil and preserve them as a shining Arab arena performing their splendid Arab role.

Press Lauds Abrogation of Lebanon-Israeli Accord

LD061041 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0822 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Riyadh, 6 Mar (SPA) — The newspaper *AN-NADWAH* has lauded the abrogation of the 17 May agreement announced by Lebanon yesterday saying that it is only the first step which the Lebanese regime had to take to open the road toward a new march. The paper points out that the agreement was the result of a complete Lebanese conviction that this agreement was contrary to the freedom and independence of Arab Lebanon and that it was drawn up and formulated under military and diplomatic pressures brought about by military occupation which had reached Beirut. In conclusion, the paper writes that the road before Lebanon is still long but it has no alternative if it wishes to reach safety. The leaders of Lebanon can place their trust in the Arab efforts and Arab support for the attainment of their national objectives now that they have come to realize foreign ambitions.

The newspaper *AR-RIYAD* writes that the events in Lebanon have frustrated all the Zionist designs and turned Lebanon into a homeland with an Arab affiliation and a country which cannot squander its independence whatever the difficulties or the sacrifices. The paper calls on all Lebanese, now that the Lebanese-

Israeli agreement has been abrogated, to turn the settlement into a historic decision even if this demands great concessions from all sides, so that Lebanon will forget the years of devastation and killing and become once more a free homeland governed by national principles. The paper describes the meeting between Presidents al-Jumayyil and al-Asad as a new watershed on the road to the crystalization of a Lebanese solution on new bases free from foreign interference. The Al-Jumayyil Government's decision to abrogate the Lebanese agreement meets once of the conditions demanded by the opposition. The paper affirms that this response is only the start of a positive solution and to a meeting around one table to restore normality to Lebanon.

Lebanese Reconciliation Prospects After Abrogation

LD061342 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Mar 84

[From "Analyses" by Muhammad Ja'far al-Ghanim]

[Excerpts] After a Lebanese and international watch — which did not last long — since the Lebanese -Syrian summit, Lebanon officially announced the abrogation of its agreement with the Israeli enemy known as the 17 May Agreement. Though it was repeatedly said during the past few days that the Lebanese president planned to abrogate the agreement, the official announcement of the abrogation serves to put an end to numerous speculations on the form this abrogation would take. The abrogation was decided on at a Cabinet meeting presided over by President al-Jumayyil and was not referred to Parliament as some observers had expected.

Since the announcement on the abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, observers have noted numerous positive changes in the political and security areas in Lebanon represented by the following:

1. Increased security at the points of fighting in the Lebanese capital as a result of the cease-fire which was announced following the official abrogation of the agreement with the Israeli enemy.

2. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan's reversal of his decision to resign, which he had tendered to President al-Jumayyil, in an attempt observers took as an act of consolidating national Lebanese action, which necessitates the rallying of efforts in the present decisive stage in the history of Lebanon, particularly as the Lebanese president will be leaving for Switzerland to participate in the second round of the national dialogue conference. As President al-Jumayyil said, under such circumstances it is not right for the country to be without a government.

3. The announcement of a date for a second round of the national Lebanese reconciliation conference which will be held on 12 March in Lausanne, Switzerland, coupled with the announcement of the expansion of the representation of the various communities and factions and political beliefs in this round. The first round, it is recalled, was conined only to eight people representing some of the factions.

In this regard observers believe that the Lebanese Government's decision to expand representation at the second round of the national reconciliation conference stems from its belief that the conference provides an opportunity for the adoption of collective decisions approved by everyone, thereby ensuring everyone's continued support for them and their continuity.

4. The Lebanese opposition circles' welcome — noted by observers — of the government's abrogation of the agreement with the Israeli enemy. This was taken as a positive indication, raising hopes for the success of the national reconciliation conference. The agreement was the main obstacle to the success of the first round of the conference.

The second round of the national reconciliation dialogue is expected to achieve tangible success on the grounds that by abrogating the agreement the Lebanese Government has overcome the deadlock that prevailed over the stands of the various sides. On the other hand, the Israeli reaction to Lebanon's abrogation of the agreement took the form of a threat by a number of Israeli officials to resort to acts of revenge. In fact, while the Lebanese Cabinet was convening yesterday to consider the agreement, Israeli enemy planes were raiding a number of positions on Mount Lebanon. This was taken as an Israeli warning to Lebanon against abrogating the agreement. The Lebanese Cabinet's decision to abrogate the agreement has dealt a blow to Israel, which has been bent on blackmailing Lebanon. The Israeli enemy, which concluded the agreement with Lebanon, has itself failed to abide by it but used it as a screen to cover its occupation of southern Lebanon and as a means to consolidate its unlawful presence in that part of the country. The Israeli enemy has repeatedly claimed that it has no intention of remaining in Lebanon, while its practices there have demonstrated its intention to seize any favorable opportunity to swallow that part of Lebanon. Observers believe that Israel never, in fact, intended to implement the agreement because it wanted to use it as a means to widen the gap among the Lebanese factions. Thus the abrogation of the agreement robs Israel of a card it was using to inflame sedition in Lebanon, to destroy its human and material capabilities and keep it weak.

The Israeli enemy was expected to create a storm over Lebanon's abrogation of the agreement, because this abrogation is contrary to its interests and blocks its hope to continue to be able to increase tension in the situation and thereby impose a de facto situation on southern Lebanon. Observers are unanimous in saying that the Israeli enemy will use the Lebanese abrogation decision as a pretext to keep its invading forces in Lebanon under the guise of so-called protection of its northern borders. Observers do not rule out the likelihood of the Israeli enemy embarking on a military adventure to effect the threats made before and after the abrogation of the agreement.

The abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and the fixing of a date for the second round of national reconciliation dialogue prompt observers to ask: Can it be said now that the end of the Lebanese crisis is near? This question leads to yet another question: How far can one go in predicting the success of the second round of the national reconciliation conference in Lebanon? The answers to both questions lie in one answer: The will

of the Lebanese that stems from the sincerity of all parties in Lebanon to work to save it from crisis. Lebanon's deliverance depends on collective Lebanese action in Lebanon's interest. The Lebanese alone can save their country from further devastation and deliver it from the Israeli occupation. The indications of the political and security situation in Lebanon following the abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement call for optimism with regard to the realization of national reconciliation starting with a united Lebanon and ending with a secure and stable Lebanon.

UAE

Somali Foreign Minister Leaves Abu Dhabi for Home

GF071646 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1418 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 Mar (WAKH) — Mr Abdurrahman Jama Barre, Somali foreign minister, and the delegation accompanying him left Abu Dhabi for Somalia this afternoon, after a 4-day visit to the UAE. During his visit, the Somali minister delivered a letter from Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan on bilateral relations and issues of common interest. During its visit, the Somali delegation held discussions with a number of UAE officials on the latest Arab developments as well as bilateral relations, especially in the economic field.

Foreign Minister Receives Saudi Message

GF081122 Doha QNA in Arabic 1116 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 Mar (QNA) — Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, has received a written message from Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi minister of foreign affairs, on the new Arab developments, particularly the Palestinian issue and the situation in Lebanon. The message was conveyed by Salih al-Fawzan, Saudi ambassador to the UAE, during his meeting today with Ya'qub al-Kindi, director of the Foreign Department at the UAE Foreign Ministry.

Minister Receives Message From Iraq's 'Aziz

GF081032 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 Mar (WAKH) — Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, has received a message from Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister, on Iraq's call for an emergency Arab foreign ministers conference in Baghdad next Tuesday to discuss the recent developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war. The message was conveyed by Ahmad Tamis, charge d'affaires at the Iraqi Embassy in Abu Dhabi, during his meeting today with Ya'qub al-Kindi, director of the Foreign Department at the UAE Foreign Ministry. Yesterday the UAE received an invitation from the Arab League Secretariat General to attend the emergency Arab foreign ministers conference which Iraq has called for. WAM reports that the UAE is currently holding consultations with other Arab countries on this issue.

Farm Cooperation Pact To Be Signed With Hungary

GF071133 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 7 Mar 84 p 22

[Text] The UAE and Hungary are to sign an agreement for cooperation in agriculture. The minister for agriculture and fisheries, Mr Sa'id ar-Raqbant, who has tentatively scheduled a visit to Budapest in May will sign the agreement with his Hungarian counterpart. This was stated by Hungary's undersecretary for agriculture, Mr Villanyi Miklos , in a chat with reporters after meeting chamber officials and local businessmen. Mr Miklos is leading a five-member agriculture mission which is on a four-day visit to the UAE.

The joint cooperation agreement will be the first to be signed between the UAE and a socialist country and comes after persistent efforts by East Bloc states to step up cooperation with the UAE. The agreement, Mr Miklos said, will open up opportunities for cooperation in scientific research, training of personnel and plant and animal sanitation. The visit of the five-man delegation which yesterday had meetings with officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has enabled the Hungarian side to identify the requirements of the agreement and draw up the same.

During the mission's visit which also covers Abu Dhabi and al-Fujayrah, its members will look out for new areas of cooperation between Hungarian agriculture agencies on the one hand and individuals as well as corporate bodies here on the other. Mr Miklos acknowledged that the scope for such cooperation was wide and mentioned forestry, hydroeconomy and food processing, particularly fruit processing among the areas where joint ventures could be set up. The mission which is keen on increasing Hungarian farm exports to Dubai also offered the country's vast experience in animal husbandry and establishment and development of farms to the UAE.

The undersecretary said Hungary's potential had already been recognised in the UAE where it has undertaken several turnkey farm projects. In Bida Zayid an afforestation programme has been completed with Hungarian help in 600 hectares while in al-'ayn similar work has been completed in a 400-hectare area. Hungary is also constructing on turnkey basis a 1,000 sq. greenhouse in al-'Ayn and another in R'as al-Khaymah at a cost of $7 million. Earlier, at the chamber meeting, Mr Miklos said 70 per cent of Hungary's land area was suitable for intensive cultivation which had made the country the fifth largest producer per capita of agricultural goods in the world. Hungary also had the fourth place in grain production per capita and annual production of agricultural goods was in the region of &1.5 billion.

The delegation handed over to Mr Sa'id al-Ghandi, first vice-president of the chamber, a list of projects in which the two countries could cooperate. Presiding over the meeting, Mr Ghandi said relations between Dubai and Hungary were developing continously. He recalled that only two weeks ago a mission led by the president of the Hungarian chamber had visited Dubai. Earlier, Hungary's minister for finance led a mission to Dubai and the Dubai chamber had also sponsored a delegation to Budapest.

Satisfaction Expressed Over 17 May Abrogation
GF081149 Doha QNA in Arabic 1114 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 Mar (QNA) — The UAE has expressed satisfaction over the Lebanese Government's abrogation of the 17 May accord with the Zionist enemy. It has also expressed the hope that the abrogation will put an end to the problems caused by the accord. This came during a meeting today between Ya'qub al-Kindi, director of the Foreign Department at the UAE Foreign Ministry, with Salah 'Abbush, Lebanese ambassador to the UAE, during which the ambassador briefed Al-Kindi on the Lebanese Government's abrogation of the accord. A responsible source at the UAE Foreign Ministry said that during the meeting, Al-Kindi told the Lebanese ambassador that the UAE hopes that the national conference which is scheduled to be held in Switzerland shortly will succeed in achieving national reconciliation and the spread of stability and security all over the national soil of Lebanon. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the developments in Lebanon, particularly efforts being made by the Lebanese Government to achieve national reconciliation.

Press Welcomes Annulment of 17 May Agreement
GF060955 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0610 GMT 6 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 6 Mar (WAM) — The UAE newspapers have welcomed the Lebanese Government's decision to abrogate the 17 May agreement with Israel. The papers termed this decision a historic victory for the Arab nation and called for taking advantage of this step in the upcoming moves which are designed to solve the Lebanese issue in particular and the Arab issue in general.

AL-ITTIHAD said that the Arabs need to look to the future in Beirut, in the south, in the north, and in every Arab country because the Lebanese decision to scrap the accord with the Zionist enemy "has dimensions on the Lebanese, Arab, Israel, American, and international levels." Commenting editorially the paper said that this agreement proved a number of matters and eliminated a number of illusions. It stressed that "any decision or agreement that contravenes the will of the nation and that deviates from its constant position of antagonism to Israel and Zionism is an ephemeral agreement. The scrapping of this agreement also accentuates that the will of the enemies of the Arab nation is weak and that they cannot impose on this nation whatever contravenes its rights, demands, and sovereignty."

AL-KHALIJ said that the most important lesson that can be gleaned from this agreement is that "a total small power that is armed with will, and faith, that is aware of the kind of struggle it is waging, and that is capable of realizing the movement of all the influential elements in this dispute can block a huge plan that is backed by the strongest powers in the world." The paper went on to say that "what has taken place in Lebanon is very huge and very grave. It is strong blow directed against the United States and Israel and their imperialist plans and interests. We have become used to seeing these tyrants adamant. The Lebanese and the Arabs — who refuse to give in, to be submissive to the U.S.-Zionist plan — are required to be extremely alert and aware in order to foil all the plans designed to strike at the rank that defeated the 17 May accord."

YAR

Delegation Leaves for Meeting in Tripoli
GF081155 Doha QNA in Arabic 1115 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] San'a', 8 Mar (QNA) — A YAR delegation left San'a' for Tripoli this morning to attend the YAR-Libyan joint committee. The delegation is led by Muhammad Ahmad al-Junyd, minister of development and chairman of the central organ of planning. The delegation will participate in the annual meeting of the joint committee for technical and economic cooperation which will begin in Tripoli next Saturday. Prior to his departure, the YAR minister said that he is carrying a written message from the YAR President to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on bilateral relations. He added that what has been achieved during the last period in economic and technical fields between the two countries will be reviewed during the meeting.

Reportage on Visit by Italy's Andreotti

Meets Mubarak, Makes Statement

NC071100 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 7 Mar (MENA) — Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti said that President Husni Mubarak believes that Lebanon's sovereignty must be restored and that the main problem is the Palestine question which we must begin to solve immediately.

In a statement he made after his 1-hour meeting with President Mubarak today, Andreotti expressed the belief that Egypt's concentration on the Palestine question is correct. The future horizons that Egypt — a country which adopted a courageous initiative and recognized Israel's right to exist — is planning stem from a country which realizes the importance of promoting the peace process.

Andreotti said the recent events in Lebanon drive us toward political negotiations to solve this problem, particularly through holding negotiations with the PLO at this particular time.

He stressed that through this the momentum of the peace process can be maintained.

Regarding Italy's agreement to renew the mission of its contingent with the peacekeeping force in Sinai, he affirmed that his country continues to approve of this in order to ensure peace in Sinai.

Answering a question on the withdrawal of the Italian contingent from the Multinational Force in Beirut, Andreotti said: Italy participated in this force to ensure the safety of the Palestinians following the Sabra and Shatila massacres and to contribute toward restoring the internal accord in Lebanon.

He added: When we lost the possibilities of achieving this, we lost the legitimacy of the Italian contingent's presence in Lebanon and consequently we withdrew it.

The Italian foreign minister said his country is prepared to support any political action that will restore Lebanon's internal accord. He called for peaceful coexistence between Muslims and Christians and for the settlement of the Palestinian issue in Lebanon within the framework of a comprehensive Palestinian settlement.

Concluding his statement, Andreotti expressed his happiness to have met with President Mubarak, saying: I am again pleased to meet President Mubarak, particularly during this important stage through which the Arab and the whole Arab world is passing.

In response to a question, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said the Lebanese-Israeli agreement was signed under certain circumstances which were not favorable to all the parties concerned at the time. He said as long as this (?step) to annul the agreement will meet the demands of all the parties in the area — I mean Syria's and Israel's security — and if it is a step on the path to achieve reconciliation among the various parties, then let them achieve that. Asked if Syria intends to dominate Lebanon, 'Ali said: For a long time we have believed that Syria has interests in Lebanon and has been linked to Lebanon with strong and close ties to the point that there has been no need to exchange ambassadors. Concluding his statement, 'Ali, however, stressed that Egypt will not allow any violation of Lebanon's independence and national unity.

'Ali on Andreotti Talks

NC071614 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 7 Mar (MENA) — The first round of Egyptian-Italian talks took place this afternoon between Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Giulio Andreotti, Italian foreign minister, who is currently visiting Egypt.

In a statement to journalists following the meeting, 'Ali expressed appreciation for the attitudes and policies of the Italian Government regarding Middle East issues. He said that Italy's practical attitudes regarding the Middle East indicate its support for efforts to bring about a political settlement using all possible and practical means. He cited, for example, Italy's participation in the Multinational Force in Sinai and its protection of the Palestinian camps of Sabra and Shatila in Lebanon as part of the Multinational Force there.

'Ali noted that this gave the Italian contingent in Lebanon a distinctive and special status, and made it welcome by the Palestinians and Lebanese alike.

'Ali said that his talks with the Italian foreign minister dealt with all issues pertaining to international problems, as well as with bilateral economic, technical, and cultural relations.

Concerning political issues, 'Ali said that the talks dealt with the situation in Europe, which is linked to the situation in the Middle East. Views were also exchanged on the deployment of nuclear weapons by the Soviet Union and the West, the latest developments in the Middle East, and the Lebanese crisis.

'Ali explained that Egypt and Italy agree on the need for national reconciliation among the warring factions in Lebanon, for the withdrawal of foreign forces, and for the preservation of Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity. He said we also discussed the Palestinian problem and the need to encourage moderation in order to solve all aspects of this problem through negotiation and to preserve the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

'Ali added that undoubtedly Italy has played a distinguished role in the Middle East, whether unilaterally or within the EEC. Italy fully supports the Palestinian people's right to establish their own state, as well as Israel's right to exist within secure borders. 'Ali said that he discussed with the Italian foreign minister developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and the possibilities of the escalation of the grave situation in the Gulf, which could lead to the internationalization of the war there.

'Ali said we also discussed the situation in Africa from the viewpoint of cooperation in order to calm the situation in the Horn of Africa. Egypt and Italy share the same view toward these problems. There is also a strong desire by the two countries to strengthen bilateral cooperation in all areas.

Concerning bilateral relations, 'Ali said that undoubtedly the convening of the joint committee u. ler the two countries' foreign ministers would push relations in various areas to a new stage that would completely strengthen these relations.

'Ali said that it has been agreed to sign a protocol on bilateral nuclear cooperation for building nuclear power stations in Egypt. Italy is expected to participate by 40 percent in a project with France to build the first nuclear power station in the Ad-Dab'ah area. This is a positive step in relations between Italy and Egypt and will result in further cooperation.

It should be recalled that Egypt and Italy are linked by strong relations of friendship in various areas. Italy is participating in development projects in Egypt through an annual grant of 5 million pounds. Italy has also given Egypt a $150 million loan.

There are also plans and projects to develop the petroleum, agricultural, industrial, and construction areas with the help of Italian capital and technology.

As for military cooperation between Egypt and Italy, this cooperation has prospered following the signing of a military cooperation protocol in October 1983.

Muhyi ad-Din, Andreotti Discuss Mideast

NC072115 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2037 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 7 Mar (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din tonight received Italian Minister Giulio Andreotti, who is currently visiting Cairo.

The Middle East situation, conditions in Lebanon, and the Iraqi-Iranian war, as well as ways of bolstering bilateral cooperation in various areas were discussed.

The prime minister praised Egyptian-Italian cooperation in establishing peace in the area.

After the meeting, the Italian foreign minister said that his country supports the Palestinian people's right to establish their own state within a framework of peace and security for all states in the region.

Regarding the situation in Lebanon, Andreotti said that his country supports Lebanon's sovereignty over all its territory. He hoped that the reconciliation conference will produce good results through the cooperation of all Lebanese sides. Asked about the role of Italy and the EC in finding a solution to the Middle East problem, Andreotti said that the European Council believes that Arab similarity of views is an important factor in solving the region's problems.

Nuclear Cooperation Protocol Signed

NC072149 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] An Egyptian-Italian protocol on nuclear cooperation was signed at the Foreign Ministry tonight. According to this protocol, Italy will contribute 40 percent of the cost of building a nuclear station for generating electricity in Ad-Dab'ah.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, signed the protocol on behalf of Egypt, and Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti signed it for Italy. The two ministers also signed the minutes of the meeting of the joint Egyptian-Italian committee.

A statement was issued tonight on the meetings of the joint Egyptian-Italian higher committee. It says that the Egyptian and Italian sides held intensive discussions regarding recent international developments, particularly the Middle East situation.

They also discussed the need to step up efforts to establish a comprehensive and just peace based on the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to determine their future.

The statement adds: The two sides studied the deteriorating situation in Lebanon and stressed the need to safeguard Lebanon's unity and sovereignty. They also reviewed the Iranian-Iraqi war developments and condemned the continuing escalation in this area. The Egyptian and Italian sides discussed the recent developments in the southern part of the African Continent.

The Italian minister will leave Cairo for Luxor tomorrow morning for a several hours visit. He will then go to Khartoum.

Andreotti Leaves for Khartoum

NC080919 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 8 Mar (MENA) — Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti and his delegation left Cairo this morning for Khartoum following a 3-day visit to Egypt.

Before his departure, Andreotti said he will stop for several hours in Luxor in order to visit the city and get a glimpse of its civilization. Afterward, he will resume his trip to Khartoum to meet President Ja'far Numayri and Sudanese Foreign Ministry officials.

He will discuss with them matters concerning the promotion of bilateral relations in the agricultural and industrial spheres.

The Italian minister was seen off at the airport by Egypt's ambassador to Italy Yahya Rif'at.

Al-Jumayyil Phones Mubarak on Lebanese Developments

NC071321 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] This afternoon Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil telephoned President Husni Mubarak and briefed him on the latest developments on the Lebanese arena.

Mubarak Congratulates Syria's Al-Asad

NC071146 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1143 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 7 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent the following cable of congratulations to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the occasion of revolution day:

I am pleased to send to Your Excellency our heartfelt congratulations on revolution day. We wish you continued health and happiness and the fraternal Syrian people progress and prosperity. With my esteem.

Foreign Trade Minister Meets SFRY, Indian Officials

NC071416 Cairo MENA in English 1225 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, March 7 (MENA) — Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Dr. Mustafa as-Sa'id conferred today with Yugoslav Minister of Trade Rikard Stajner and Indian Deputy Minister of Trade Shri Sangma on the draft agreement due to be signed by the three countries on Saturday.

Following the meeting, Dr. as-Sa'id said that the tripartite meeting dealt with prospects for economic development among the three countries and steps to set up joint ventures in the fields of engineering industry, electronics, car manufacture and agriculture industry.

It is to be mentioned that there is a trade agreement signed between the three countries in 1969 on reducing the custom duties and giving their exports preferential treatment.

The Indian and Yugoslav officials had arrived here yesterday for a week long official visit to Egypt.

Paper Cites Al-Qadhdhafi on Opening of Border

NC071001 Paris AFP in English 0908 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, March 7 (AFP) — Libya is ready to open its border with Egypt as long as Egypt does the same, Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was quoted as saying today.

In an interview published in the Egyptian opposition weekly *AL-AHALI*, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi blamed Egypt for closing the border, claiming that "the United States and Israel cannot bear Egyptians and Libyans to mix".

The frontier has been closed since July 1977, following a short border war between the two countries, and Egyptian Army units near the western border are on a permanent state of alert.

There are still around 300,000 Egyptians working in Libya, although diplomatic relations between Cairo and Tripoli were broken off when Egypt signed the Camp David peace agreement with Israel in 1979.

Workers returning from Libya have to travel via Athens or Malta, as air links have also been severed.

According to the Egyptian press, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak met Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's personal adviser in Rabat last month at the request of King Hassan II of Morocco.

Immediately afterwards the Egyptian press quoted the President as saying "Egypt no longer expects anything from Libya", from which analysts deduced that dialogue had been cut short.

Somalia's Samantar on Relations With Ethiopia

NC071130 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1105 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 7 Mar (MENA) — Following his 1-hour meeting with President Mubarak, Somali Vice President Mohammed Ali Samantar said he conveyed a verbal message to his excellency from Somali President Siad Barre. He said: We have been accorded a hospitable welcome since our arrival. We began our talks yesterday with Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. We will resume the talks and hope they will be successful.

Regarding the situation between Somalia and Ethiopia, Samantar said the situation between Somalia and Ethiopia is still the same and that certain Ethiopian armies are still stationed in Somali areas. The situation on the border has not changed as there are still some Ethiopian concentrations.

On the efforts Somalia is making to pacify the situation, Samantar said: Our stand is clear on this matter. We call for solving the problems between the two countries through peaceful means. We are waiting for the other party to adopt the same stand.

Maldivian Foreign Minister Leaves Cairo

NC071651 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 7 Mar (MENA) — Maldivian External Affairs Minister Fathulla Jameel left Cairo this afternoon for home following a 3-day official visit to Egypt.

During the visit he was received by President Husni Mubarak. He also held talks with Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on strengthening bilateral political and cultural relations.

In a statement before departure, the Maldivian minister said he hopes good bilateral relations will continue in various areas.

›vernment Calls for Arab Foreign Ministers Meeting

)071624 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 7 Mar 84

ext] Baghdad, 7 Mar (INA) — Iraq has called for an Arab reign ministers emergency meeting to discuss the serious sit-tion endangering the entire Arab region in light of the escala-n of the Iranian aggression. Iraq proposed that the meeting be nvened in Baghdad on 13 March.

aq's call for this meeting was contained in a letter Tariq 'Aziz, puty prime minister and foreign minister, sent today to Arab ague Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

his letter, Tariq 'Aziz said that the Iranian aggression against aq has very seriously escalated in the past few days, and Iran s carried out successive offensives in order to penetrate Iraq's rders and occupy Iraqi territory.

ne Iraqi foreign minister stressed that the Iranian aggression ntinues, and all indications show that it will escalate in the ture.

his letter, Tariq 'Aziz referred to the previous letter he sent to e Arab League secretary general on 23 February concerning e latest developments and the seriousness of the aggression that an is launching against Iraq. Tariq 'Aziz also explained the anian regime's objective in this aggression: Occupying Iraqi rritory, cities, and villages, and harming Iraq's freedom, honor, d sovereignty as a prelude to imposing the Iranian regime's ntrol on other parts of the Arab homeland.

ariq 'Aziz said that he is confident that the Arab League cretary general will make the necessary arrangements to form the member Arab countries of this matter, and will work convene the meeting on the proposed date in accordance with rticle 11 of the Arab League Charter and Article 7 of the atutes of the Arab League Council.

resident Receives Arab League's Klibi

N071227 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1048 GMT 7 Mar 84

ext] Baghdad, 7 Mar (INA) — President Saddam Husayn ceived here today Arab League Secretary General Chedli libi. During the meeting, Klibi reviewed the results of his ntacts in some Arab countries within his current tour. He serted the Arab League's concern over the dangers of the anian agreesion against Iraq — dangers that do not only reaten Iraq, but also the entire Arab region.

libi asserted the need to work out effective and active initiatives confront the current siutation. He praised Iraq's effective role reinforcing the Arab League's role and institutions.

ney discussed the importance of holding the next Arab summit soon as possible because of the current pan-Arab needs and e dangers that threaten the Arab nation. They also discussed e affairs of the joint Arab action. Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime inister and foreign minsiter, and the president's secretary tended the meeting. Klibi arrived here yesterday and met with ariq 'Aziz.

Klibi on Region's Development

JN080818 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0530 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Mar (INA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has said that his current Arab tour aims at discussing the developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and the Palestine cause.

In a statement published in *AL-JUMHURIYAH* today, Klibi said that his discussions focused on the need to stop this catastrophe against the countries in the region. He said that the war threatens international security and peace, and that the conscience of the international community must move to stop this war. He said that yesterday he discussed with President Saddam Husayn the developments in the war, and the Arab and international efforts being exerted to stop it. Klibi expressed his pride and appreciation for the determination and strong will enjoyed by the Iraqi people and decisive leadership.

Klibi, who is visting Iraq within an Arab tour, added: I hope that all efforts will be united to achieve peace in this delicate and dear region so that all efforts can then be exerted for what is more important — the work for development and progress to which Iraq has contributed.

On his talks with Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Klibi said that the talks dealt with joint Arab action, Arab-international relations, and the meeting of the ministerial committee on amending the Arab League charter.

Klibi welcomed the Lebanese Government's abrogation of the 17 May agreement. He said that this is a historic decision which gives hope for the return of dialogue among the Lebanese, and confirms Lebanon's Arab role. He called on the big powers to assume their responsibilities toward Lebanon's sovereignty, and expressed hope that the Lebanese would overcome all obstacles in the way of resuming the dialogue so as to rebuild Lebanon's unity and cohesion. On the convening of the next Arab summit, the Arab League secretary general noted that the Secretariat General is continuing the preparations for this summit, and is coordinating with the members in order to prepare the reports to be presented to the Riyadh summit. Klibi expressed hope that the coming Arab meetings will result in a new momentum for joint Arab action.

Armed Forces Issues Communique No 1,397 — 7 Mar

JN071759 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1710 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Communique No 1,397 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 7 March 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces, which have inflicted the most humiliating defeats and huge losses on the aggressor Iranian forces during the glorious battles of the past few days, are now stronger, more determined, and more intrepid, and are equipped with their faith in Almighty God and their confidence in the inevitability of their victory over the covetous enemy and the suspects. The results are as follows:

1. Several of our valiant forward units carried out successful raids on enemy troop concentrations and positions opposite their positions east of Basra. They killed or wounded large numbers of the enemy; captured several enemy elements; and destroyed 1 tank, 6 106-mm guns, 6 vehicles, including 2 carrying military hardware, 11 personnel and weapons positions, and 2 hardware stockpiles.

2. Several of our valiant Air Force formations today carried out raids on enemy positions and units opposite our forward units' positions east of Basra, scoring effective and accurate hits. All of our fighter aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Our helicopter gunships today raided enemy positions, units, and troop concentrations in the areas opposite our forward units' positions east of Basra, scoring effective hits. At 1640 today, one of our aircraft formations from the Armed Forces Air Force pursued three enemy helicopters. They shot down two, one Chinook and one Bell; the third helicopter fled. Another one of our aircraft formations hit another enemy Chinook helicopter in another area in the same sector. During their combat activities today, our helicopter gunships inflicted heavy losses in life and equipment on the enemy. Known losses amount to 15 boats, some of which were carrying personnel and weapons; 85 enemy troop concentrations; several personnel carriers; vehicles; various types of weapons; and 4 observation posts. All of our valiant helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God. Our helicopters carried out 177 combat missions today.

4. One of our forward units pounded several enemy elements opposite its position in the central sector of the battlefield, killing two, wounding many, and destroying two infantry positions whose occupants were killed. In another area in the same sector, new groups of Iranian soldiers, escaping the oppression and terrorism of the suspect Khomeyniite regime, sought refuge with our forward units. They were safely evacuated to the rear lines.

5. The criminal Khomeyniite artillery shelled Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, Zurbatiyah, Sayyid Sadiq and its suburbs yesterday evening and today. As a result of the barbaric enemy shelling, six civilians were wounded, three houses were destroyed, and one elementary school, nine civilian cars, and several civilian installations were damaged in Basra; six houses were destroyed, and two other houses and one secondary school were damaged in Khanaqin; and several civilian installations were damaged in Mandali, Zurbatiyah, and Sayyid Sadiq.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, on 7 March 1984.

Envoy to Turkey Warns of 'New Arms' in Gulf War

NC070846 Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish
2 Mar 84 pp 1,11

[Artun Unsal report]

[Text] Ankara, *(HURRIYET)* — Iraqi Ambassador to Ankara Taha Mahmud al-Qaysi has said: "In addition to the Super Etenard planes which we have received, we possess new weapons which we have not used. If the need arises we shall use them."

Describing as "unacceptable" Iran's peace conditions which stipulate Saddam's resignation and the payment of extensive reparations, the Iraqi ambassador expressed his government's gratification over President Evren's remarks that "if need be, I can go to Tehran for the sake of peace."

Answering *HURRIYET*'s questions, the Iraqi ambassador pointed out that the Iran-Iraq conflict closely concerns many neighboring countries including Turkey. He added: "We are expecting Turkey to call for the termination of the conflict. Both in the short and long run, it is impossible for this war not to affect Ankara."

Stating that Iraq is expecting Iran to launch a major onslaught in the next few days, the Iraqi ambassador said: "We are strong enough to repulse this onslaught which we expect in the east of Basra. No matter how big the attack may be, we are ready to resist it."

Stressing that Iraq would accept in advance the verdict of a multinational committee to be elected by the Islamic summit as to which side would have to pay war reparations, the Iraqi ambassador went on: "We are also open to the deployment of an international peace force to be sent either by Islamic or other countries to the Iraq-Iran borders." Stating that Britain has failed to maintain neutrality and that it has sold arms to Iran, the Iraqi ambassador said this action was also condemned by the United States.

Referring to "new arms" which they have not yet used, the Iraqi ambassador said: "This is not a bluff." However, he refrained from disclosing the type of weapons.

Military attaches of some large Western countries believe that these "effective" new weapons could be "missiles."

In an article which appeared on 25 February in the well-informed French newspaper *LE MONDE*, a foreign expert drew attention to the fact that Iraq has obtained new French and Soviet arms and added: "These may, for instance, be the new Exocet missiles. Exocets are not fired only by Super Etenard planes; they can also be used from land to land, from sea to land, or from land to air."

Daily Warns Iran Against New Attacks

JN080709 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0600 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Mar (INA) — The newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH* says that the Iranian rulers are now trying to mass the remainder of their forces in order to launch a new aggression against Iraq. It stresses that the destiny of this aggression will be worse than that of the previous ones which were buried on Iraq's borders. In its editorial today, the paper adds: The Iranian rulers are not pretending to forget that all their hostile preparations only ended in losses, woes, and bitter defeats. It emphasizes that the recent battles waged by the Iraqi forces proved that that Iranians will only reap defeat, losses, and destruction in any future battle, and that the Iraqis are still able to burn and destroy more of the aggressor forces.

The paper warns the Iranians by saying: The ignorant Iranian rulers will know what a black destiny is awaiting them in the next battle and what a crematorium of death the Iraqi soldiers have prepared for those who are dreaming of harming Iraq and encroaching on its land, sovereignty, and independence.

Minister Confers With Turkish Official

JN071250 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1225 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Mar (INA) — Minister of Transport and Communications 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd ar-Rahim met here this morning with Ekrem Pakdemirli, Turkish prime minister's under secretary for foreign trade and treasury, and his delegation. The two sides discussed cooperation between the two neighboring states in the field of transport and communication and the means of promoting them in the service of the Iraqi and Turkish peoples.

President Receives Jordan's Al-Qasim 7 Mar

JN071739 Baghad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] President Saddam Husayn this afternoon received Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Jordanian Royal Hashemite Court. During the meeting, Al-Qasim conveyed a verbal message to the president from his brother His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal dealing with areas of fraternal cooperation between the two fraternal countries and an exchange of views about the Arab situation.

The president also asked the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court to convey his greetings to His Majesty King Husayn. The president also pointed to the great victories that the soldiers of the Al-Qadisiyah had achieved in battles east of Basra and in Maysan, and to the destruction of the waves of evil and aggression that are coming from Iran. Ahmad Husayn, chief of the president's office, and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting. Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite court, arrived in Baghdad this morning. He was received at the airport by Ahmad Husayn, chief of the president's office. Marwan al-Qasim left Baghdad at the end of a short visit to Iraq. Ahmad Husayn, chief of the president's office, saw him off at the airport.

Planning Minister on Development Projects

JN051718 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1232 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Mar (INA) — Iraqi Minister of Planning Dr Samal Majid Faraj has emphasized that Iraq will continue its development process in order to promote the national economy, even though 42 months have passed since the beginning of the war that the Iranian regime imposed on Iraq. In a statement to INA, he said that 1983 witnessed the completion of numerous development projects whose implementation began during the years of war. He added that 851 development projects in various sectors were completed last year. Faraj also said that 626 projects were completed in the fields of construction, education, higher education, and scientific research; 102 projects in the industrial sector; 91 projects in the transportation and communications sectors; and 22 projects in the agricultural sector. He also emphasized that the investment plan for 1984 includes completing a large number of development projects in various sectors of the economy.

INA: Lebanon Ba'th Official on 17 May Abrogation

JN061831 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1425 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Mar (INA) — Dr 'Abd al-Majid ar-Rafi'i, secretary of the Ba'th Party's regional command in Lebanon, has stated that the Lebanese Government's abrogation of the 17 May agreement has ended an anomalous situation and returned matters to the previous situation. In a statement to INA here today, Ar-Rafi'i said that abrogating this agreement with the Zionist enemy is a severe blow to the trends that are betting on the enemy and to those who are seeking to set up alliances with it. He added:

The abrogation is also a victory for unified Lebanon, for the free, independent, Arab, and democratic Lebanon. It is also a victory for the popular resistance in southern Lebanon, which undermined the provisions of the agreement one after the other before it was officially abrogated. Ar-Rafi'i stated that the abrogation of the ill-omened agreement reestablishes Lebanon in its proper Arab context. It also fails all of the arrangements that were supposed to be legitimate, but whose contents actually restricted national sovereignty and constituted a Zionist attempt to penetrate Lebanon and, through it, the entire Arab homeland.

Dr Ar-Rafi'i explained that although this political achievement means the end of a stage that has had very harsh effects on the Lebanese, it must be the beginning of a new stage for placing Lebanon on the road to real national salvation. In order to achieve this, the national upsurge in the south must be nurtured and Lebanese political dialogue must be resumed so that the Lebanese achieve a real accord based on principles that will safeguard the basic national requirements and will realize political and constitutional reforms in the Lebanese regime in a manner that will fulfill the Lebanese masses' aspirations. Ar-Rafi'i said that national accord is the only way to extricate Lebanon from its crisis, to liberate and unite it, and the only way to establish a regime with a broad democratic participation that will return refugess to their villages and cities without any discrimination and that will release those who have been kidnapped.

Ar-Rafi'i added: While we call on the Lebanese to grasp this opportunity for entrenching this stand, we reiterate our rejection of any negotiation with the Zionist enemy — under any form whatsoever — with the pretext of granting it security measures. This is because events have proved its futility, and because it will greatly harm Lebanon's unity and Arab affiliation.

Ar-Rafi'i said: The only alternative is to escalate confrontation of the Zionist enemy with all means and under any form available; to seek to obtain the widest Arab support for the upheaval of the south, which is a ray of hope for our people and nation that is struggling against the enemy of Lebanon and the Arab nation; and to stress the need to implement international resolutions, specifically UN Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509 calling for the unconditional and comprehensive withdrawal of the Zionist forces from Lebanese territory.

King Husayn's TV Interview on Current Issues
JN072149 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1820 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Interview with King Husayn by *AR-RA'Y* editor in chief Mahmud al-Kayid, *AD-DUSTUR* editor in chief Mahmud ash-Sharif, and *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* editor in chief Ibrahim Sakkijha, carried with "Our Causes" program moderated by television reporter Muhammad Amin; date not specified — videorecorded]

[Text][Mahmud al-Kayid] Last week Amman witnessed a broad Palestinian-Jordanian move marked by a meeting between Your Majesty and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. How does Your Majesty evaluate the results of that meeting?

[King Husayn] In fact, the meeting was a good one. The series of meetings that took place in Amman gave us an opportunity to discuss our causes — the Palestine question and the circumstances through which it is passing regarding Palestinian Arab rights on Palestinian national soil. We concentrated on the fact that this question is passing through a very serious stage. In fact, it is a stage through which we are passing together in order to face the danger. We Palestinians and Jordanians alike are being threatened. We are the advocates of a message, are defending rights, and are a vanguard of the Arab nation in the great homeland.

I view this stage as follows: Israel and the Zionist movement have occupied all of Palestine for many years, and Israel alleges that it is a question of people and not land. In other words, it is not the Palestinian people's question on their land and soil. Moreover, Israel has a presence in the territories of fraternal Arab countries — specifically, Lebanon.

In addition to its declared positions and policies toward Judaizing the land and setting up settlements, Israel has recently entered into new dimensions regarding its plans and their implementation. Its recent designs aimed at rehabilitating the inhabitants by moving them from their camps, villages, and locations to the Jordan Valley. I believe that this step constitutes pressure to force them to leave their land in the occupied homeland. Moreover, the recent measures or attempts to extend Israeli law to the West Bank and Gaza territories, the occupied territories, in my view mean an annexation. On the other hand, there is the presence in Lebanon and the continuation of that presence. Israel achieved its declared objective regarding its entry into Lebanon — the PLO's departure from Lebanon.

I believe that it has also realized another objective. I remember that I drew attention to that objective when I participated in the first Arab summit meeting. From what has been written and from what we studied about Israel's intentions toward southern Lebanon, we know that its main objective in that part of our great Arab homeland is to reach the source of the Jordan River. I remember that a symposium was held in Jordan several days ago to discuss Israel and Arab water. It was clear from the beginning that when several million people come to our land, they will need water. Therefore, they began their aggression against Jordan's water, and there was an expansion in Golan in 1967 that prevented us from implementing our Arab projects. It is also regrettable that even our attempts during the past few years to benefit from storm waters by setting up a dam on the Yarmuk were not successful. And now they are in Lebanon.

There is another dimension regarding the Palestine question: the present and future fate of about 400,000 Palestinians in Lebanon's territory. I hope our concern over this issue is unfounded. In addition to this, we have recently noticed that large numbers of Palestinians who carry Jordanian passports have begun to return to Jordan from various parts of the Arab homeland. It has been said that economic and material factors forced some fraternal Arab countries to take measures that lead to that.

There is also the PLO. In 1974, and as a result of Arab consensus, we abided by the Rabat Summit resolution considering the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This was consistent with our position, and there was no other reason. To facilitate the PLO's assumption of this great role, we held discussions out of our belief that the Arab nation is directly responsible for regaining the occupied land, and that this responsiblity should not be placed on the Palestinians following Israel's occupation of all of Palestine. However, the resolution was adopted.

We supported it despite its consequences here in Jordan, where we have deprived ourselves of exercising parliamentary life for many years. Of course, there was talk and many attempts to reach a result, but there was a semi-vacuum or a variety of opinions. Therefore, all the Arab, Palestinian, and international efforts did not lead to the required result regarding saving the land and the kinfolk. Then came the recent operation to which the PLO was exposed in the most serious stage of the cause and under the most serious circumstance through which the Palestinians and all of us are passing. This came to creaate another serious vacuum, either intentionally of unintentionally. Consequently, we felt that we should meet with our brothers out of our joint duty.

For us, the Palestine question is a question of life or death, a cause of right, a cause of message, an Arab cause which we had the honor to defend and to be soldiers in the Arab march from the great ArabrRevolution which countered the Zionist plans aimed at Palestine and then at the Arab nation. In fact, we talk about the credibility of many people in this world.

The problem in my view is that the world does not pay the necessary attention to our Arab world — even though the world's interests lie in maintaining good relations with us, despite the fact that we occupy a strategic position and despite other well known facts. At a time when our Arab world is passing through a state of fragmentation, confusion, weakness, and inability, we usually react to these problems. However, these reactions might be very slight or might not exist, and in any case, they are not up to the required level. Therefore, we Jordanians and Palestinians form the basis.

We have recently begun dialogue on the possibility of crystallizing concepts about our present and future relations. It is currently a family relationship in the face of danger, a family that carries out its duty and is the vanguard of its nation. Then, what is our

duty toward the kinfolk in the occupied land, with Jerusalem as its pearl in the West Bank, Gaza, and every other place? Some people say let us leave the cause for coming generations, but we do not live in a vacuum. This land's features are being changed, and our kinfolk suffer much more than other people in this world do. Danger also increases. Therefore, we discussed relations in order to stand on solid ground and build them in confidence. We also should devote ourselves to God, to Palestine, and to our nation and its most serious cause. There are no other proposals at this stage.

How can we begin, and how can we be a nucleus in this Arab world? We should not individually go to our brothers in the Arab world and consult them. We should tell them that we are the owners of the cause and are affected by that cause. We should tell them that this or that trend is correct, and we want you to support us. In other words, we should place the initiative and the Palestinian-Jordanian issue in Arab hands.

Even here, there are some people who ask why all this, and let us stop. My answer to this is simple. At the beginning, Jordan was a base for the march of the Arab revolution and a base for the revolution's army that was to save Syria from foreign occupiation. Jordan was established as an Arab country affiliated with this nation. Jordan is loyal to the Arab nation, its objectives, and its forefathers message, and particularly to Palestine.

If we look at our size and the land on which we are living, squeezed together, we will certainly reach our limit. We are strong by virtue of the cause and the rights we are defending. We are defending the Arab personality, freedom, and rights in the entire Arab homeland, particularly in Palestine. This was our objective and purpose — that is, to meet and to reach mutual understanding. The beginnings were good.

[Al-Kayid] Your Majesty, has there been a specific plan toward a settlement which will mark the Jordanian-Palestinian move in the coming phase, or is it only a coordinated and organized joint move by the two sides?

[Husayn] In fact, it is a joint Jordanian-Palestinian move imposed on us by the circumstances which we face jointly and will continue to face together in the future. There is no discussion of any particular plan, as some parties have imagined or predicted. There is no proposed plan at present. Of course, there were many plans in the past. What we intended in our meeting was to begin, as Jordanians and Palestinians, to organize our relations and ourselves and to envisage the ideal image of these relations in the future after liberating the land. Later, we will let the people give their opinion on whether they approve such an image or not.

We will try our best to make the joint relationship one that satisfies every Jordanian and Palestinian, as far as God permits. We will consider this point later, but now we will look at our Arab world and consider what we can do in order to accumulate and gather Arab strength around us. We will also act in the service of our nation. Only then will we look at the world to see what proposals there are that we can move on in order to serve our cause — nothing more and nothing less.

[Mahmud ash-Sharif] Your Majesty, my question has two parts: First, if it is true that there is no specific plan according to which the Jordanian-Palestinian team is moving, is there a unified vision that Your Majesty and Yasir 'Arafat share with regard to the current deteriorating situation and Arab fragmentation? Second, it has been noticed that for the first time a big delegation arrived from the West Bank and presented a petition to Your Majesty and Mr Arafat. What is the significance of this move? Can we presume that this trend may expand? What will the effects of this trend be on the future of Jordanian-Palestinian action?

[Husayn] Regarding the first part of your question, we presented our view to the PLO Executive Committee chairman and his delegation, and found that we were in complete agreement on the analysis and that we expressed a unified vision. For this reason, I said that the beginning was good — in every sense of the word.

Concerning the kinfolk and brothers in the occupied territory and their move, this is what we expect and wait for. On various occasions I have expressed my opinion that the only justification for the existence of the PLO is to work for liberating the land and the kinfolk there. The PLO's strength lies in the aspirations, ambitions, and desires of the kinfolk and brothers in the occupied territory. I say the same thing for us too. This cause is ours. We worked for its sake, and will continue to work until the owners regain their rights. We seek honorable and just peace which can only be acheived by removing occupation from all the occupied Arab territories and by the kinfolk's exercising their full rights on their national soil. I mean here the Palestinian people.

The contacts our brothers and kinfolk in the West Bank and Gaza have with us and with the PLO are natural at this phase. We welcome these contacts and hope that we, Palestinians and Jordanians, will be on the suitable level in the Arab world and the entire world to play our role and perform our duty so as to rescue the kinfolk. We also hope to be able to respond positively to their ambitions and objectives, particularly since they have lived all these long years adhering to the land, despite all their suffering, struggling against the obstinacy and practices of occupation.

Arab dignity is often mentioned. I believe that this dignity will continue to be encroached upon until the dignity of the kinfolk in the occupied territories is saved and until their rights as well as the rights of the Arab nation and the Islamic world are also saved.

[Ibrahim Sakkijha] Your Majesty, in your remarks about the Jordanian-Palestinian talks whose objective was to reach a joint concept for the coming phase of our action on the central question of Palestine, the joint statement issued following the talks was general in scope and mentioned a certain move to be made. [sentence as heard] However, it did not explain the nature of this move. Can Your Majesty explain to us the extent of the Jordanian-Palestinian move and its objective and also specify whether it is directed toward the United States, Europe, the USSR, the entire world, or the Arab nation?

[Husayn] Naturally, the statement cannot contain all that took place during the meetings. The cause has different and numerous aspects. There is, for instance, the steadfastness of the kinfolk in the occupied territory, their needs, what we can afford to give them, and what must be ensured by the Arab world, particularly since the Arab arena has been witnessing very serious events that have affected all of us. Let us take, for example, the Iraqi-Iranian war. Iraq supported us in all the battles in which we were engaged. It is also our strategic depth. There are various Arab stands toward Iraq and its problem. If the Iraqi-Iranian conflict was a border issue, then it would be a simple one. Both sides can then meet at a negotiating table and discuss their problem in light of the historical documents which they have and according to their demands. They can thus solve the problem easily and quickly. There is another aspect — relations between Iran and both Iraq and the Arab Gulf countries must be based on mutual respect and nonintervention in the domestic affairs of each. The issue will certainly be solved on this basis.

But Iran's continuation of this war with such fieceness, violence, and insistence, despite all of Iraq's attempts to respond positively to the efforts and mediations to end the war, gives us the impression that Iran's objective is not to adjust borders with Iraq or any similar issue. What Iran is after is to drive a new wedge in the Arab body in order to fragment it into an uglier image than what we are currently witnessing in Lebanon, for instance. This fragmentation will subjugate us to various types of dangers that threaten our personality, future, and fate as a nation.

Nobody is considering the Arab League Charter or the Arab Collective Defense Pact. Only a few Arabs are considering these documents. On the other hand, there are certain Arabs who are siding with Iran and supplying it with arms and other means. This situation is strange and peculiar. It conflicts with our ethics, habits, and values. If we leave all other considerations, there still remains our duty to return Iraq's favor.

The war is in its fourth year, Lebanon's situation is deteriorating, and Egypt's situation is not normal. It is obvious that our opponents and enemies have succeeded in reaching a lot of their objectives by splitting Arab ranks and keeping us away from Egypt as well as keeping Egypt away from us during this period in our life. Therefore, since circumstances have changed, it is our duty to do our best to patch up differences and reunite ourselves. I am saying this not because it was discussed in the meetings, but in order to note the painful situation our Arab world is witnessing. It is a situation which requires us, as Jordanians and Palestinians, to organize ourselves, to talk with everyone, and to work to reorganize the situation in the great Arab homeland.

If the system of unanimity in adopting decisions creates such complications for us, can we handle this matter in one way or another, or can the majority make a decsion, or formulate a certain policy, or build with the available Arab resources? The economic aspects are usually linked to political aspects. It seems that there is some kind of disorder in linking the two aspects here. Consequently, the world does not heed us as is necessary, although it has numerous interests with us in this region. Our relations with the world must be different from those which currently exist.

There is also the international situation and the struggle between the two superpowers. There are also differences and tension between them from which many countries have suffered. Even the international community senses the negative impact and the acuteness of these differences. Even in this area, there are also attempts by Zionism and Israel and others to internationalize the confict. The question that one asks is whether this will be in our interest too. We must view this world as an arena where right will confront worng. We must also seek to establish relations with all on the basis of mutual respect and cooperation that will be beneficial to all.

Let us take Europe, for example. We tried and we succeeded to a large extent in contacting the various countries in that continent which are close to this part of the world. There are joint interests and a realism in terms of viewing the causes and problems as well as their effects and repercussions both on Europe and on the world at large. Europe can assume an important role within the international community. It can even influence some of the arenas which we cannot reach or those we have reached but ineffectively so far. This is the case with the United States. There is also the USSR and the PRC.

Personally, I had the honor of representing the Arab group in visits to four of the Security Council permanent member countries. I also visited the United States, which is the fifth Security Council permanent member. All of them say that the basis of the solution concerning the Palestinian cause consists in UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which ban the forcible seizure of land. Then the equation is complete withdrawal in exchange for peace. Therefore, the moves must take place on various levels, but they must begin here. It must be a Jordanian-Palestinian move, to be followed by an Arab move, then by the world at large — both large and small countries. Action is necessary. We must not just wait to receive blows without being able to move. We must be able to move in a better manner than in the past.

[Sakkijha] Thank you, Your Majesty. But the statement referred to a joint Palestinian-Jordanian move. Does this mean that there is a joint Jordanian-Palestinian move in terms of delegations?

[Husayn] Yes, this is possible in the very near future.

[Muhammad Amin] With your permission, Your Majesty, in your last reply and your review of the Arab countries, you mentioned Lebanon three times. Lebanon, undoubtedly, is one of the hottest areas in the Arab world. Recent developments in Lebanon have witnessed the failure of U.S. policy toward Lebanon. Will this failure affect the forces which have some influence in the region, and what repercussions will this have on the work for the Palestinian cause?

[Husayn] If your question has anything to do with the agreement which recently ceased to exist, then I must say that we were always against this agreement. I recall that in late 1982, as well as during my visit to the United States when we discussed President Reagan's plan, the issue dealt with was that the discussion must focus on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 242. The U.S. side said that when the Jordanians and Palestinians express a readiness to implement this plan,

and we of course will say that the PLO will agree to this. [sentence as heard] This is what I have emphasized. In addition, we had to win the support of our brothers in the Arab homeland. We did our best to unveil the facts to everyone so that they will adopt a stand. The United States should have shown real determination to implement this plan by freezing settlements immediately and providing us with a timetable for Israel's unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon.

With respect to Lebanon, the talks led to the imposition of an agreement on Lebanon, on its president, and on its government. When the U.S. secretary of state later came to Jordan within his tour that included Syria, he spoke briefly about the agreement. He did not hand us the text of the agreement. It was some time before we obtained the text and we found that the move involved a peace treaty in the full sense of the word — in everything but name. Naturally, we adopted a stand twoard this issue in all of our contacts with the United States and with our Arab brothers,

It is true that there was an emphasis in some parts on the question of Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon, but concerning the remaining part, which is the most important, it was an attempt to proceed on a course which we do not believe to be sound in any way whatsoever.

The issue of Lebanon and Israel must be maintained within the framework of a serious world attempt to settle the Palestinian cause and establish peace on just and firm foundations. This means the withdrawal from all the territories in exchange for the acknowledging the Palestinian people's rights to their homeland. We are against solutions that seek to single out Arab countries when dealing with this issue. We are against partial solutions and support a just, comprehensive, and honorable peace. Therefore, we hope that the recent developments will be positive ones. At the same time, we must not forget that Israel's declared objective for entering Lebanon was to remove the PLO.

The other objective, against which I have been warning since 1964, deals with southern Lebanon. The picture will be incomplete until Israel withdraws from all Lebanese territory. We have always supported the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty over all Lebanse territory. We have always supported Lebanon's freedom and the efforts that have been exerted to enable the sons of Lebanon to meet and come to an understanding on settling their causes and differences in a manner that will satisfy all of them. This is the picture.

[Amin] Thank you, Your Majesty.

[Al-Kayid] Your Majesty, since we are speaking about Lebanon, the Lebanese Government abrogated the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. Does Your Majesty believe that the abrogation of what has been called the agreement of submission has placed Lebanon on the sound course, or does that nightmare of partitioning Lebanon into sectarian statelets continues to exist?

[Husayn] We are all facing threats. With respect to Lebanon, all that we hope is that Lebanon can succeed in overcoming this critical stage with the help of all us. The solution, if it is considered a solution, will remain incomplete so long as Israel does not withdraw from southern Lebanon

[Al-Kayid] But does the nightmare of partitioning Lebanon still exist?

[Husayn] The bitter reality is that in practice Lebanon's population has been partitioned into sects, communities, and groups. We always hoped that the situation would be dealt with, and we hope that this beginning will be the sound beginning.

[Ash-Sharif] Your Majesty, the abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement concluded on 17 May has raised questions about whether this will have a negative effect on one specific party and a positive effect on another party. It has also been interpreted as a defeat for a big power which has influence and interests in the region. I want to ask to Your Majesty if whether in your visualization of the future you believe that, as a result of the abrogation of the agreement, there will be an imbalance of the regional and international powers in the region in such a manner that will affect any future moves for settling the Palestinian cause in a just and comprehensive manner.

[Husayn] If, for example, the discussion deals with the United States, then let me give you my visualization of the situation. If the United States was affected by the recent events in the Arab region, then I belive this was for the reasons which I explained to the U.S. leaders during my latest visit. These reasons are that when the U.S. President proposed his plan after many years of adopting the well known U.S. stands, this was rejected by Israel.

The second Israeli reply to President Reagan's plan was the settlement process and the establishment of settlements in an unprecedented manner.

Third, the continuation of the Israeli presence in Lebanese territory: A big mistake was committed by insisting on reaching an agreement. That so-called peace agreement was imposed on Lebanon. As is said, Israel also continues its attempts to relocate the citizens prior to expelling them. It also considers the Palestinian question as a cause of a people, not of land. It attempts to extend Israeli law to the occupied Arab territories and to continue its inhuman practices against the citizens' freedom and rights. We told the U.S. side that it is impossible for any Arab side to enter into negotiations with Israel because Israel exists in Arab land with U.S. force — weapons and money; even the settlement process is financed by the United States. Its recent move is, as I said, a reply to the U.S. President and his initiative.

There is also the moral and political support. We also told them that the Arab side cannot deal with the United States as an Israeli ally or a mediator. The question is whther the United States could rise to the level of the superpower that it represents in this world and to the level of fulfilling its promises and pledges, from 1967 and UN Resolution 242 to now. This is the question, and in light of its answer the Arab side can determine whether or not to move toward the United States. It is not a question of a particular situation in Lebanon. It is a long series of developments of which Lebanon is a part.

This is an election year. Whether the United States can or cannot move this year, I cannot tell. Zionist influence in the United States began in 1956. That year was an election year. Despite this, the U.S. president stood not only in the face of Israel but

also in the face of France and Britain, U.S. allies. Israel was forced to withdraw from Arab territories that were occupied that year. Zionist concentration moved from Europe to the U.S. arena. Therefore, I say that it is a question of rights that we should defend. The Zionist movement and Israel managed to achieve many gains in the U.S. arena in a short period. In fact, if we fail to explain our cause in a convincing way that can change U.S position, we will be blamed for that, for not trying to achieve it and for not organizing ourselves. The United States has many interests in the Arab world that will make it reconsider its positions.

[Ash-Sharif] Your remarks about U.S. moral, political, and economic support for Israel raise a question concerning a recent event in the U.S. congress. The Zionist bloc is exercising great pressure on the government to move the U.S Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. I would like to hear Your Majesty's point of view on this issue and the dangers that might result regarding U.S.-Arab relations if thaat move takes place.

[Husayn] It is a very serious issue, and in my view it constitutes an attempt by the Zionist movement, which has influence in the United States, to deal a new blow to Arab-U.S. relations. Any event of this importance will arouse effective Arab reaction. This reminds me of the issue about which I spoke a lot. We Jordanians, Palestinians, and Arabs should reorganize ourselves in a different way. We should not continue any situation that will encourage such positions against us.

[Sakkijha] Your Majesty, concering the U.S. position and the situation there, we are now reading about victories achieved by a senator we hardly know — this is Senator Hart — over his rival for the Democratic Party nomination, former Vice President Mondale. Does this have an effect on candidates of the Democratic Party in the United States or not? I mean that Mondale is known and has made many statements supporting Zionism and Israel, but we have not heard — at least in Jordan — about Senator Hart's position. Your Majesty is well known to be an authority on U.S. politics and stands. Does Your Majesty believe that there is a change, or is there really any change at all in the attitudes of the U.S. voters?

[Husayn] With respect to Mondale, and according to my information, the man supports and stands by Israel. I am well aware of his previous stands. He is committed to them.

As for Hart, our information is, of course, relatively limited, but he is a liberal and at the same time he is within the class of U.S. politicians who may lean toward supporting Israel more than others. Naturally it is difficult to judge at this particular time what his future trends will be if he reaches the post of president of the United States. It may be possible to compare his known positions to date with those of Ted Kennedy, for example. We believe that these positions were reassuring to us as Arabs.

[Al-Kayid] A local question, if you please. Your Majesty's call for the return of parliamentary life to the country after a long absence was well received by all citizens. How do you see political activity in the coming stage, especially since the byelections will be held on 12 March? What are Your Majesty's views on political activity in the coming stage?

[Husayn] This is a last chance for me to speak on this subject with complete sincerity and candor, and to say that this step was taken because we were facing a constitutional dilemma that threatened to deprive Jordan of its constitutional life if the situation continued as it was. The events under which the House of Representatives reconvened and parliamentary life returned to Jordan are known. There is no truth whatsoever that there are any attempts to have this become an alternative to the Palestinians' having their say and opinion concerning their cause. We support them. From the beginning that unity took place, and in the first meeting of the House of Representatives, there was a decision stressing that this relationship does not affect the Palestinians' rights in the final solution of the Palestinian question.

From another point of view, this process in my opinion was very important because, from the beginning, this viewpoint was sound concerning the establishment of a relationship that is well balanced — the West Bank and the East Bank, Jordan and Palestine. This is what we continue to discuss with our brothers in the PLO and with our Palestinian brothers in an attempt to crystallize this into a new concept on the required level, and to deal with facts from the premise that we are one family suffering together and standing together. The effects, whether positive or negative, will equally affect us as Jordanians and Palestinians.

Concerning some of the ideas and proposals I have heard about during the past period, I will again draw attention to our enemy. The answer may be in what the enemy says: that the question is one of people, and not of a land. In fact, what we have achieved is the best, the most ideal, the possible; it is also the beginning of this balanced relationship that we must preserve.

As for the election process, we are watching it with the concern of the father, brother, and friend of all the candidates. I am also looking with hope to brother citizens, our sons and kinfolk, to elect to the seats of Parliament those whom they think are sincere, loyal, have a sincere affiliation, and are mature. In the meantime, we all live with the election fever and all of its dimensions. God willing, the election process will be an honorable process, in all meanings of the word, a sign for the good of this march and country and a step toward our aims and objectives.

[Al-Kayid] I would like to ask Your Majesty if the near future may witness the issuance of a new election law so that general elections can be held at the right time.

[Husayn] Of course, I personally cannot answer this. However, if as an individual and an official, I am allowed to say something. It is that those who say we should leave the West Bank, freeze its representation in the House, and hold elections here may be close in their opinions to what Sharon proposes when he says that the issue is that of people and not of a land and that the solution to the Palestinian people's problem is here. Even with the return of Parliament, we entrench matters on sound bases, for Palestine and Jordan, irrespective of the occupation that will inevitabily disappear if there is to be a just and honorable peace in this part of the world. We must pay attention to these considerations.

[Amin] Your Majesty, we feel that we have taken a lot of your time but I think there is one issue that we have not covered in this interview in the first episode of Our Causes: the escalation

in the Iraqi-Iranian war. The battle that has been raging for about 2 weeks is seriously escalating, and I think that preparations are under way for a new Iranian offensive — half a million soldiers, I believe. In Your Majesty's opinion, what effect, if any, does this latest battle have on the future of the region? In addition, how can we stop the Iraqi war?

[Husayn] Thank God, sir, Iraq continues to stand fast, firm and cohesive in the face of this continuing aggression against it and the Arab nation. Naturally, we live with the hope that the Iranian side will realize that there is no interest in its continuing this war and will sit for negotiations in order to remove all the reasons that led to the the border dispute. We also hope that Iraqi-Iranian and Arab-Iranian relations can be based on principles of mutual respect and noninterferance in the internal affairs of one another as soon as possible. We also hope they will respond — as Iraq has responded — to good offices for attaining this objective possible.

As for Iran's continuation of this war, we think it can only mean that it is directed against our Arab nation and that it is a threat to it. Arab disunity is one of the reasons for the continuation of this war. The Arabs were supposed to adopt a stand supporting Iraq in order to end this war. The officials in Iran may think that Iraq will weaken with time, but there is great hope that Iraq will remain firm and steadfast. Here I do not mean human weakness, but material weakness. I am convinced that Iraq will be steadfast and firm, and that it will overcome all the difficulties, whether material or concerning people, because over there, the army is the people and the people are the army in a battle that is forced on them. They are not only defending their land, but also Arab land everywhere. Our hope is that it will end, and end in the shortest possible time, in the interest of everyone, God willing.

[Sakkijha] Commenting on this, it was recently said that about half a million Iranians have been killed during the 3 years of the war. This is not the question — touch wood, as they say. But after Your Majesty's reassuring visit to the United States for medical tests, we want to say that some unofficial meetings took place there. Is it possible for Your Majesty to give us an idea about what went on during these meetings?

[Husayn] I explained part of this in answering some of the previous questions. In fact, I was eager to try to know what the exact position was, and to try to point out the dangers.

As for the meeting with Brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, it was conveyed to me while I was in the hospital in Clevelenad that the Egyptian president would visit Washington and that President Reagan was inviting both of to have lunch with him and hold talks. I thought about this for a short time and welcomed the idea. I considered this a chance for the U.S. President to hear the opinion and position of officials in the Arab world, positions which in this case were identical. This was a positive step. I had met with President Husni Mubarak in New Delhi at the Nonaligned Summit Conference, and I had visited him. He visited me in Washington, and I visited him too. It was a chance to talk to him on many issues. In my opinion, Egypt can never forsake its nation, and the Arab nation can never forsake Egypt. The return to joint action and solidarity is inevitable. We hope to see this achieved and actually materialized soon.

[Amin] We thank you very much on behalf of Jordanian Television and the local press representatives for your hospitality in this interview, where we have been your guests in the first episode of the Our Causes program.

[Husayn] May God bless you and preserve you. I hope that circumstances in the future will allow me to meet the brothers again and to participate again in this program, which I hope will prosper.

[Amin] You are too modest, sir. We are always your guests. Gentlemen, we have presented to you the first episode of the Our Causes program.

Al-Qasim Returns From Short Visit to Baghdad

JN072133 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Amman — Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, returned to Amman this evening after a short visit to Baghdad during which he conveyed a message from His Majesty King Husayn to his brother His Excellency Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq. The message dealt with cooperation between the two fraternal countries and developments on the Iraqi-Iranian front.

This message comes in the context of military consultations and coordination between the Jordanian and Iraqi leaderships pertaining to important developments in the Arab and international arenas.

During his meeting with Al-Qasim, his excellency the president expressed his appreciation for the Jordanian position under the leadership of His Majesty King Husayn as well as for Jordan's support for Iraq in the just war it is waging in defense of its land and dignity.

Parliament Committee Discusses Political Issues

JN081003 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Mar 84 p 26

[Text] Amman — The House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee met yesterday under Rizq al-Batayinah, head of the committee. Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri attended the meeting.

During the meeting, discussions dealt with the suggestion that the government inform the House of Representatives of the results of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks held during PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's recent visit to Jordan.

During the meeting, the foreign minister asserted Jordan's adherence to the PLO's legitimacy under Yasir 'Arafat and its support for independent Palestinian decisionmaking.

The committee reviewed the means of supporting the kinfolk's steadfastness in the occupied Arab territories and the Arab and international situation in light of the abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

AR-RA'Y on Abrogation of 17 May Agreement

JN070843 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 7 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A New Lesson from Lebanon," *AR-RA'Y* says: The abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement has come as a new assertion of the real nature of the Arab-Zionist conflict and further evidence that this region cannot contain two existences and two entities: The destruction of one will guarantee the continuation of the other. Therefore, the abrogation of the agreement was not only a response to a popular Lebanese demand, but also a response to an Arab demand. The abrogation was not only a result of the Lebanese resistance, which was an example of courageous retaliation and determination in its efforts to abort the agreement, but also because the agreement represented a deviation from Arab will despite the fact that this will has not yet achieved anything in regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict. If an individual can deviate from a course and ignore his convictions, nations cannot, because such a course would be slow suicide instead of resistance, steadfastness, and achieving victory.

AR-RA'Y continues: Observers who followed the march of Arab Egypt after As-Sadat's absence and the march of the Lebanese people before and after the signing of the 17 May agreement realize that the Zionist understanding of peace is contrary to the Arab understanding. Peace which is based on usurping territory is contrary to the peace based on justice, and the peace which aims at giving the Zionist enemy a free hand in the region is contrary to the peace which calls for regaining security, stability, and the coexistence of people in this region as it has been throughout history. Observers also realize that the Zionist military superiority is incapable of achieving a settlement.

AR-RA'Y concludes: Our enemy understands this fact but tries to bypass it through isolating us despite the fact that its experiment with Egypt and Lebanon has ended in a way contrary to its desires. Thus, we must understand this fact, and act in light of it, because the people's march is a long path of disasters and victories, ups and downs, and submission and loftiness. The most important thing is that our wager on a better future must continue, and we must rely on our own efforts to regain our nation's face, role, and unity which have been absent for a long time.

Briefs

New Brazilian Ambassador — Amman, 5 Mar (PETRA) — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri this morning received a copy of the credentials of (Felix Bakista de Faria), the Brazilian ambassador appointed to the Royal Hashemite Court. (De Faria) recently arrived in Amman to open Brazil's first embassy in Jordan. [Text] [Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 5 Mar 84 JN]

Preparations for National Dialogue Conference

NC080710 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Consultations are under way for the second round of the National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne on Monday amid signs of optimism expressed by the parties concerned. Unofficial reports say that the official delegation to accompany President Amin al-Jumayyil comprises Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, Presidential Adviser for National Affairs Dr Wadi' Haddad, Jean 'Ubayd, and Presidency Director General Joseph Juraysati.

The President will leave for Switzerland this weekend. He will be in Lausanne on Sunday on the eve of the conference, which will begin at the Beau Rivage Hotel at 1000 on Monday. The conference is expected to last 2 or 3 days at the most.

It appears that after consulting the parties concerned it has been decided to cancel the meeting which the conference's preparatory committee was due to hold in Lausanne on Saturday. It is known that the parties concerned are drafting new working papers to be presented to the conference. These papers stem from principles most of which differ from the work of the preparatory committee and its studies following the first round of the dialogue.

The National Salvation Front is drafting a working paper over which consultations have been held. The working paper will be presented at a meeting attended by the Salvation Front leaders in Damascus or in Lausanne before the conference convenes.

A plenary meeting will be held today by the Phalange Party, the National Liberal Party, the Lebanese Forces, and the Union of Christian Leagues to coordinate their stances and ideas and to adopt a unified stand regarding the subjects to be discussed at the conference.

Birri Receives Invitation

NC071906 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri redeived Beirut Governor engineer Mitri an-Nammar this afternoon. An-Nammar gave him an invitation to attend the second round of the National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne.

Lawyer Nabih Birri also met with U.S. Ambassador Bartholomew and reviewed the general situation in light of recent developments.

Comments on Representation

NC080700 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri has said: As the Amal Movement and National Salvation Front, we support the participation of representatives of the Orthodox, Catholic, and Armenian communities in the National Dialogue Conference, which amounts to a constituent body for building a new Lebanon. It is impermissible that active and basic sectors of the Lebanese people should be excluded from representation and participation in the conference.

Salam Receives Invitation

NC071917 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] [Former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam received U.S. Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew this morning. After the meeting the ambassador only said: We discussed the general situation. At 1130, Prime Minister Salam received Beirut Governor Mitri an-Nammar, who conveyed to him the president of the republic's invitation to attend the National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne.

Druze Offer Principles

NC080806 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0730 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] The permanent bureau of the Druze institutions believes that the second round of the National Dialgue Conference must begin by defining those responsible for the harm done to nationalist areas in Beirut, its southern suburb, and in the mountain. The bureau laid down the bases and principles for the dialgue, including the abolition of sectarianism in all public establishments, the election of the president by the people in order to make the presidency a symbol of national unity, and the creation of a vice president post with executive powers. The bases and principles also provide for establishing a senate in which the six major Lebanese communities will have equal representation, for increasing the number of provinces, and for making all of Lebanon one electoral constituency for people's representation.

Al-Hariri Returns to Beirut, Meets Al-Jumayyil

NC071800 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Within the context of ongoing endeavors and contacts to bring about the success of the Lausanne conference, Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri arrived in Beirut today. He proceeded to B'abda Palace where he was received by President al-Jumayyil. They discussed the prospects of the coming phase, particularly in relation to the Dialogue Conference and the Saudi position in this respect. It has been learned that Al-Hariri also met with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim for the same purpose.

Birri Receives Saudi Envoy

NC071941 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] At 1700 today, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri received at his residence Saudi envoy Rafiq al-Hariri for 75 minutes. They discussed new developments in light of ongoing preparations to convene the second round of the National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne.

Salam Contacts Al-Asad, King Fahd 7 March
NC071326 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] [Former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam today contacted Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad by telephone. He congratulated Al-Asad on the complete recovery of his health. Salam said he appreciated Al-Asad's stand and the efforts he has made in helping Lebanon. According to sources close to Prime Minister Salam, President al-Asad replied by saying that he will spare no effort in this regard, pinning his hopes on everybody's cooperation and the good efforts Prime Minister Salam has made in this respect.

Prime Minister Salam also contacted Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz in Ad-Dammam and thanked him for his interest in Lebanon's issues, appreciating his efforts to reconcile brothers on the Arab and Lebanese levels. In turn, the Saudi monarch emphasized that the Saudi Kingdom will continue to buttress all efforts and endeavors to accelerate the salvation of Lebanon from the current crisis.

Al-Wazzan Cables Congratulations to Al-Asad
NC071951 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan this evening sent a cable of congratulations to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the 8 March [revolution] anniversary.

Foreign Ministry Clarifies Resignation Report
NC072052 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] An official source at the Foreign Ministry today clarified what has been reported about the resignation of Lebanese Ambassador to Argentina Edmond Khayyat. The source said that Ambassador Khayyat some time ago asked that the termination of his services be approved. His request was approved and he was officially notified accordingly.

Shams ad-Din Sends Notes to UNSC Members
NC080740 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, has asked delegations of the council to visit the ambassadors of the permanent member states of the UN Security Council today. Shams ad-Din wants the ambassadors to be handed notes outlining the council's stance regarding the deployment of UN forces in southern Lebanon and in Greater Beirut provided that these forces are effective and of an adequate number to ensure the links among the Lebanese people.

Papal Envoy Leaves After Seeing Al-Jumayyil
NC071411 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Papal envoy Mario Brini left Beirut for Damascus this afternoon after meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil and Cardinal Khuraysh. He gave them written messages from Pope John Paul II, emphasizing the pope's support for and interest in Lebanon and his profound concern for Lebanon's unity and independence.

Libya Seeks To Resume Diplomatic Relations
NC081245 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Ambassador Fu'ad at-Turk, the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, received a telephone call this morning from Muhammad al-Fayturi, a member of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau in Beirut, conveying to him Libya's desire to withdraw its decision freezing diplomatic relations with Lebanon. Ambassador at-Turk promised Al-Fayturi that he will convey his country's desire to higher quarters.

Airport may Reopen 9 March; Schools 12 March
NC081234 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1157 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Salim Salam, chairman of Middle East Airlines, has said that the current talks on reopening Beirut international Airport have made long strides toward success and that he hopes the airport will resume operations as of tomorrow morning if no developments take place. Thus the vital link between Lebanon and the outside world will return to normal, particularly as many Lebanese are awaiting such tidings. We hope to officially announce this tomorrow.

Meanwhile, representatives of schools in Beirut's southern suburb held a meeting today at which they decided to reopen the schools in the suburb as of Monday.

U.S. Journalist Reported Missing in Beirut
NC071749 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The security authorities were today informed that a U.S. journalist has disappeared in Beirut under mysterious circumstances. According to information, the U.S. journalist, Jeremy Levin, director of the U.S. Cable News Network office, did not arrive at his office in the Commodore Hotel today and has not left a message for his wife about his whereabouts. His wife told security men and other security authorities that she left him at 0730. When she returned to her house in the Ghannam Building on California Street, behind the Indian restaurant, she did not find him. She said she does not know his whereabouts.

VOL: 'Socialists' Kidnapped Journalist
NC072224 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] In New York U.S. television said that Jeremy Levin [words indistinct] its office in Rome and that it fears that he might have been kidnapped.

According to security reports, a group of socialists entered the Commodore Hotel in Al-Hamra [in West Beirut] and kidnapped Levin.

'Uthman Views Security With Karami, Franjiyah
NC071211 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Uthman, acting director general of the Internal Security Forces, accompanied by Colonel Samir Sha'rani and Captain Ashraf Rifi, this morning met with senior officers in the north to discuss the security situation in Tripoli and the northern area. Later they visited former Prime Minister Rashid Karami. They discussed the security situation in Tripoli and the north. Afterward they went to Zgharta to meet with former President Sulayman Franjiyah for the same purpose.

Mufti Khalid Meets with Security Officials
NC072045 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] His Eminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid, Mufti of the Lebanese Republic, received at his residence this evening Brigadier General 'Umar Makhzuni, commander of the Beirut police, Colonel 'Isam Abu Zaki, and Lieutenant Colonel 'Adnan Ghusn. After the meeting, his eminence made a statement which said that the Internal Security Forces commanders conveyed to his eminence the results of the contacts that took place during the past 2 days regarding security arrangements. These security arrangements are to be implemented in Beirut in agreement with officials of Islamic and national parties and forces. They will ensure the implementation of the agreement closing all armed party offices and centers created after 6 February 1984. The agreement would also prevent armed appearances so that the Internal Security Forces can assume security responsibilities in Beirut and prevent contraventions under the law.

The statement added that his eminence was apprised of measures to ensure these objectives and to achieve public stability and reassurance. The statement adds that his eminence then urged all parties to abide by all decisions issued by the Internal Security Forces in this respect and to cooperate with these forces to enable them to succeed in their security task, the aim of which is to safeguard the citizen in all domains.

French Forces To Help Monitor Cease-Fire
NC071550 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon's correspondent has learned that France has tentatively agreed to its forces remaining in Lebanon to participate in monitoring the cease-fire along the contact lines [in Beirut]. However, France has yet to officially inform the Lebanese Government of this matter.

Amal Urges Increased UN Force, Coexistence
NC071901 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The Amal Movement leadership in the south issued a statement today in which it emphasized that the Israeli campaign of arrests and intimidation will not dissuade the people of the south from continuing their march until the land is liberated. The statement called on the United Nations to increase the number of Emergency Forces and to vest them with effective, deterrent roles that will preserve the security and freedom of the southern citizens. The statement also stressed the importance of coexistence among all the sons of the south, irrespective of their sectarian affiliation.

VOAL on Attempts To Frustrate Chamber Session
NC071501 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The Voice of Arab Lebanon has learned that the parties which will be harmed by the formation of a parliamentary investigatory committee to pinpoint the responsibility for the destruction of Beirut's southern suburb and Ra's an-Nab' are trying to frustrate the session which the Chamber of Deputies is scheduled to hold tomorrow to discuss a draft proposal regarding this issue. Informed parliamentary sources have emphasized that enormous pressures are being brought to bear on a number of deputies to boycott the session in order to prevent a quorum. The same sources said that some deputies have been threatened in order to prevent them from attending the session. This would thwart a quorum and consequently foil the issue.

Karami Interviewed by Kuwait AL-WATAN
LD061148 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0740 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Mar (KUNA) — Former Lebanese Prime Minister and member of the Lebanese National Salvation Front Rashid Karami has affirmed that the abrogation of the 17 May agreement was a major step on the road to national accord, but he called for the elimination of the conditions that brought about the 17 May agreement. In an interview with Kuwait's *AL-WATAN*, published today, Karami pointed out that the liberation of southern Lebanon from the Israeli aggressor is at the top of the priorities, affirming, however, "that this cannot be achieved except through a national accord which would lay the foundation for a new Lebanon."

Karami said that the practices witnessed in the Lebanese arena during the past months "have proved that the regime did not work for the good of the majority but served clearly the minority." "President al-Jumayyil is a minority president," he said, "and we cannot be held responsible for that. Having been elected under circumstances known to all, he should have tried to bypass these circumstances, but he did not because he believed they could

provide him with protection. He lost sight of the fact that no international cover, no external cover, however big, could secure survival for him."

"The president is not required to appease the Syrians, and I do not believe that the Syrians want him to do so. He is likewise not required to appease the opposition. What is required of him is to respond to the national basic needs and if he feels he cannot do so, he should admit this and withdraw."

Any future dialogue among the various parties, he said, should begin by pinpointing those responsible for what has happened and by discussing the presidency issue because it is completely unacceptable for the present line to continue.

Karami said: "To continue to bet on American support until next year, when President Reagan will have greater freedom to act, will only mean a continuation of the suicide operation." "We do not care who commits suicide," he said "but we will work to stop those who are driving the country itself into suicide...and the realization of their ojectives."

Guardians of Cedar Oppose Accord Abrogation

NC071935 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] In a statement issued today after a meeting of its Central Command, the Guardians of the Cedar party considered the abrogation of the 17 May agreement as submission to Syrian will. They also considered it a public condemnation of 10 years of Lebanese resistance to subservience to Syria and a legal cover for the Syrian occupation of Lebanon. The party asked the Lebanese regime to pursue a policy establishing the will of the Lebanese people and not one going against it.

It did not rule out the possibility that a day will come when Syria will impose on itself and on Lebanon an agreement with Israel broader and more comprehensive than the 17 May agreement.

The statement demanded that the Lebanese regime seek a general and comprehensive peace between Lebanon and Israel and expose Syrian military, security, political, economic, and cultural intentions against Lebanon.

RFL Reports Further on Syrian Power Struggle

NC071926 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] As for the divergences among the Ba'thist authorities in Syria, Radio Free Lebanon has learned that disagreement appeared at the time of President al-Asad's illness and that despite his recovery, the difference tendencies within the ruling party are looking to his succession, especially as the president is overworking himself against the advice of his doctors. So, [Foreign Minister] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and [Army Chief of Staff] Hikmat ash-Shihabi are strengthening their positions within the administration and the Army revoking a reaction on the part of Rif'at al-Asad. This reaction consists of his combining the special units previously commanded by Hikmat ash-Shihabi with his own defense brigades, both being now under his orders.

President al-Asad has tried to end the struggle for influence but all his initiatives have so far failed. Each tendency [words indistinct] to better seize power in the decease or the crippling of the Ba'thist leader.

The Syrian regime now has other problems arising from this failure for its trying to turn away the attention of the public from these internal conflicts, using, for example, the situation in Lebanon and Jordan, and even relations with the United States. However, the differences have come out into the open and the ministerial changes in Damascus are only a part of the story.

Information from Damascus further indicates that Rif'at al-Asad was not satisfied with the results of the Syrian-Lebanese summit and has asked his brother to put him in charge of relations with Lebanon.

VOL on 3 New Syrian Vice Presidents

NC080846 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] In Damascus, the Ba'th Party Regional Command has decided to appoint the following three vice presidents: Rif'at al-Asad, vice president for military and national security affairs; Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice president for internal and party affairs; and 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, vice president for political affairs.

USSR's Chernenko Cables Al-Asad on 17 May Abrogation
JN072347 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2215 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad has received a cable from Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU, and the Soviet leadership expressing satisfaction with the news about reaching an agreement with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil on abrogating the 17 May accord that the United States and Israel tried to impose on Lebanon. Both Chernenko and the Soviet leadership describe the decision to abrogate the accord as a peaceful step that calls for great satisfaction, and one that constitutes a victory for the Arab cause. The cable from Comrade Chernenko and the Soviet leadership values the Syrian leaderships role in achieving the abrogation of this accord of submission.

Defense Minister on Regional Strategic Balance
JN071101 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0855 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 7 Mar (SANA) — Major General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces and defense minister, has asserted that Syria has made progress in building its intrinsic strength, and achieving a strategic balance with the Zionist enemy in order to become a confrontation force that can face all challenges. In a statement published today in *AL-BA'TH* on the 21st anniversary of the 8 March revolution, Maj Gen Talas said that our Armed Forces, which have proved their ability to confront the challenges facing our Arab nation, are more ready and able to retaliate against the plans prepared by invaders and agents to liquidate our nation's struggle. Maj Gen Talas added that the concentrations of aggressors, their armies, and fleets, as well as their continued threats will be faced by our continued readiness and training. The army of Tishrin knows how to bring double retaliation against the aggressors and invaders, depending on our Arab masses, and our friends in the world, foremost being the friendly USSR.

The deputy commander in chief noted that the factors for establishing a strategic balance are available and ready whether on the level of the preparedness of the fighters, armament and ammunition, or dealing with the enemy's weapons. He said: Every day, we move steadily toward building our intrinsic strength at all levels, because we realize that the weapons that the enemy shows to the world are merely a cover to hide expansion and aggression. Maj Gen Talas concludes his statement asserting that Syria which realized the danger of the Zionist aggression against the Arab nation a long time ago does not fear threats and warnings because we are the owners of our rights. We can not relinquish our rights or bargain over them regardless of the price and sacrifices.

Lebanon's Salam Congratulates Al-Asad on Abrogation
JN080711 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Former Lebanese Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam telephoned President Al-Asad yesterday, congratulating him on the victory achieved both by Syria and Lebanon by the abrogation of the 17 May agreement. Salam expressed the hope that Syria's support for Lebanon will continue and that the fraternal relations between the two countries will be bolstered. The president thanked Salam for his congratulations and sentiments, and emphasized to him that Syria will continue to support Lebanon and exert every possible effort to help it.

Somali Minister Conveys Barre Message to Al-Asad
JN080940 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 8 Mar (SANA) — At 1030 today, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Somali Deputy Health Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Rashid Shaykh Ahmad. The Somali charge d'affaires in Damascus attended the meeting. During the meeting, the minister received from Dr Shaykh Ahmad a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre.

Commentary on Arabs' Victory Over U.S., Israel
JN071648 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Commentaries by international media, particularly by U.S. and West European media, have agreed to portray recent events, including the Lebanese Government's abrogation of the 17 May 1983 agreement, as a triumph for Syria, a defeat for the United States, and the culmination of the great, continued efforts that President Hafiz al-Asad has exerted since the June 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon in order to foil that invasion, remove its consequences, and prevent the United States from exploiting the invasion and its consequences in the interest of the capitulatory plans that they intended to impose on all Arab countries. The Arabs rejected and condemned these plans, because the plans conflict with their rights, with justice, and with the principles of the UN Charter.

Syria undoubtedly played an important role in confronting the Israeli invasion and its consequences; in confronting the U.S. plans that are hostile to Lebanon, Syria, and the Arab nation; and in extending every assistance to the Lebanese Nationalist forces, which rejected U.S. domination and Israeli hegemony and adhered to Lebanon's Arabism, rights, independence, and sovereignty. Syria's role was essential for the battle against the Israeli invasion and the U.S. attempts to spread hegemony.

However, U.S. and Israeli efforts to depict matters as if past and present events were Syrian affairs that have nothing to do with either the Lebanese people's will or their effectiveness, are evil efforts aimed at instigating the Lebanese against Syria and at portraying the U.S. and Israeli defeat by the Lebanese people's will as a Syrian victory over Lebanon and as Syrian hegemony over Lebanon and its resources. These efforts are also intended to lessen both the Lebanese people's rights and their role in the battle that raged against the invaders and those with ambitions. Syria is proud of its role in confronting the Israeli invasion and the U.S. political and military interference. Syria is also proud of its role in extending assistance to the fraternal Lebanese people

in order to preserve Lebanon's Arabism, independence, and freedom, as well as its Arab relations and commitments. This should not hide the fact that the Lebanese people were a basic element in the victory, and that their powerful stand in the face of the brutal invasion and U.S. political and military interference was a key to the success that was achieved for Lebanon, Syria, and the Arab nation.

The rejection of the 17 May agreement by the majority of the Lebanese people has blocked the progress of that agreement and made it impossible for the parties to the agreement to impose it on Lebanon. The Lebanese people's resistance against the U.S. military interference and the Israeli invasion and occupation has changed the balance of power and forced the United States to withdraw its forces from Lebanon without preserving their honor — which Washington's rulers had recently called for. The policy of force, aggression, and blackmail, as well as ignoring people's rights, international law, and the principles of the UN Charter were all defeated in Lebanon. The gunboat policy of imposing one's will on other people was also defeated. On the other hand, people's will and their insistence on defending their rights and freedom has triumphed. This defeat and this victory have reas serted that both regional and international balance of powers continue to develop, but not in the interest of imperialism, racism, and Zionism.

TISHRIN Hails Abrogation of 17 May Agreement

PM071622 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 4 Mar 84 p 8

[Mustafa al-Faqir article: "Cards of the Area Are in the Hands of Its Patriotic Sons"]

[Text] It is worth noting that the Egyptian regime, through its foreign minister, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, hastened to urge the Lebanese Government to adhere to the May agreement and that at the same time Zionist War Minister Moshe Arens, on his return from Washington, spoke about the "several cards" the United States and Israel hold and by which they can "influence the future of Lebanon."

This is because the abrogation of the May agreement, which became a certainty after the Lebanese people and their nationalist forces rejected it and Syria opposed it with all its strength in order to abort it and save the sisterly country from the heinous Zionist conspiracy to detach Lebanon from the Arab family, constitutes a serious precedent that causes serious concern to Israel, the United States, and the "Arab" parties involved in Camp David.

The Husayn-'Arafat talks, on which attention was focused, have ended with a statement confirming the "common march" but without leading to the desired result — beginning talks with Israel without prior conditions, that is on the enemy's terms, regarding progressive autonomous rule. How can 'Arafat follow As-Sadat's footsteps when the Lebanese nationalist forces and Syria have aborted the May agreement and prevented Lebanon from being dragged into doing what Israel and the United States want — unilateral peace and falling under their trusteeship?

Mubarak's Egypt, which sought to drag "Arab" parties into joining it in its present position of U.S. tutelage and peace with Israel, also received a strong shock, particularly since the Egyptian masses persistently reject "As-Sadat's peace" and look forward to the day when the enemy's embassy will be closed, its flag torn to shreds and Egypt returned to its vanguard role in the area. How can Egypt, with its 50 million people, cling to the Israeli-U.S. option when Lebanon has rejected this option and given preference to the Arab option and nothing else?

As-Sadat and Mubarak after him have spread the idea that 99 percent of the cards of the area are in the hands of the United States, that is, in the hands of Israel, since both the United States and Israel are two sides of the same coin, are strategic allies, and stick together through thick and thin. The United States has been defeated in Lebanon, its Marines have been pulled out from Beirut, and the Zionist invaders have retreated to the south where daily they are being dealt painful blows whose repercussions are heard in Tel Aviv where voices are being raised demanding immediate withdrawal from Lebanon. All this is thanks to Syria and its valiant and firm resistance to the ill-omened agreement and its assistance and aid to the nationalist forces in their fateful battle to save Lebanon from the clutches of the Americans and the Zionists. Therefore, the cards of the whole area are in the hands of the nationalist Arabs foremost of whom is steadfast and valiant Syria.

The downfall of the May agreement certainly means returning Lebanon to its Arab family and its national affiliation. It also certainly means the collapse of the Zionist-Phalangist plan as well as the other Zionist plan which was being concoted in Amman under 'Arafat-Husayn sponsorship and under the placard of "Reagan's peace plan." It also certainly means that the Camp David accords which As-Sadat imposed on our Arab people in Egypt are doomed to fall because it is inconceivable that Egypt — Arab Egypt and the Egypt of 'Abd an-Nasir — will shed its Arab skin in order to don Israeli garb. The downfall of the May agreement means — and this is the most important of all — that the cards of the area are in the area itself, that is, in the hands of Arab patriots and that the salvation of the nation depends on the readiness of the Arabs to confront their historical enemy. In Syria's brave stand and the great national achievements it accomplished there is an example to be followed by those who really aspire after the dignity and strength of the Arabs and the liberation of the land that has been usurped from them

Certainly the Americans, the Zionists, and those involved in Camp David will not surrender to the fait accompli. For this reason we hear them talking about "several cards" that they will produce at the appropriate time in order hamper the march of Arab revolution which struggling Syria is leading. But the "more important cards" have fallen and the "remaining cards" will fail to curb the all-out national rising and halt the triumphant Arab historical march.

Shamir Blames Egypt for Deadlock in Relations

TA071243 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1116 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] In the Knesset today, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir accused Egypt of responsibility for the deadlock in relations with Israel. He said that Egypt was clinging to various excuses in order not to send its ambassador back to Tel Aviv. The prime minister was answering a proposal to the agenda in the Knesset. Our correspondent Hayim Zissovitz reports:

[Zissovitz] The prime minister, in his remarks in the Knesset plenum, placed all responsibility for the decline in Israeli-Egyptian relations on the shoulders of the Cairo government. Since the evacuation of Sinai was completed, in accordance with the Camp David agreements, in April 1982, Egypt has made attempts to return to the Arab world and, at the same time it has restricted the furthering of relations with Israel.

[Begin Shamir recording] The behavior of the Egyptian Government is damaging the credibility of the agreements and commitments that it took upon itself in the past, and those that it or any other government will want to make in future. [end recording]

[Zissovitz] The prime minister said Israel was constantly making attempts to renew contacts with Egypt, but these attempts had been in vain. Thus Shamir rejected what had been said by MK Hayim Bar-Lev, who initiated the debate on this issue. Bar-Lev said that the breaking point in Israeli-Egyptian relations had been the Peace for Galilee war, the failure of the autonomy talks, and the continuation of settlement in densely populated areas. In Bar-Lev's opinion, Israel should take several steps to renew the political impetus.

[Begin Bar-Lev recording] The affair of our sad involvement in Lebanon should be brought to such an end that will guarantee the peace of our settlements in the north on the one hand, and on the other permit the IDF to return to the borders of Israel. Second, a balanced policy should be followed in the territories, a policy that will, as far as possible, prevent an unnecessary rift with the local population. The Government of Israel must, without delay, invite the Jordanian Kingdom to come to the discussion table without any prior conditions. [end recording]

[Zissovitz] The prime minister rejected these remarks and said that the Peace for Galilee war was a convenient excuse for the Egyptians to withdraw from the Camp David agreements. It is a fact that even after Israel agreed to withdraw its forces from Lebanon, Egypt did not send its ambassador back, despite previous promises.

[Begin Shamir recording] When Egyptian representatives are asked today about the date of their ambassador's return, first they tie it to a withdrawl from Lebanon, then they tie it to the Tabah issue, and then to the solution of the Palestinian problem. And after we solve it, then.... The clear conclusion from all this is that they have no intention of sending the ambassador back and arriving at genuinely normal relations. [end recording]

[Zissovitz] We must persist in our path, and at the same time we must learn the lessons of the past, Yitzhaq Shamir concluded. He agreed to transfer the issue to a debate by the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Further on Shamir Remarks

TA071605 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] At the Knesset today, MK Hayim Bar-Lev from the Alignment accused the government of causing a delay in the continuation of normalization with Egypt by conducting the kind of policy it has been conducting in Lebanon and the territories. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir replied: It is Egypt that is responsible for the stalemate in normalization; the Peace for Galilee war only served Egypt as an excuse to freeze the peace process. Here is a report by our Knesset correspondent Gil'ad Mishori:

[Begin recording] [Mishori] MK Hayim Bar-lev attributed the freeze in Israeli-Egyptian relations to the war in Lebanon. Up until the war, Bar-lev contended, the relations developed:

[Bar-Lev] Although Cairo would never admit this openly, the Peace for Galilee campaign in its original declared and limited version would — I believe — have been swallowed silently by Egypt. During the first week of the war, the Egyptian reactions were moderate, and the criticism voiced by the Egyptian opposition against Israel and its demand that Ambassador Murtada be recalled to Egypt were silenced from higher up. But when the IDF reached the Beirut approaches, the restraint was removed from the Egyptian opposition, and the barriers between the two countries were erected again.

[Mishori] Other factors that contributed, according to Bar-Lev, to this freeze is the Cabinet's policy in the territories, the settlements and the absence of a solution to the Palestinian problem.

The prime minister responded: This is a very one-sided description, which serves only those who do not have the good of Israel in mind. Egypt had reservations and shunned full normalization, Shamir said, and it appears — judging from the Egyptian press — that this is policy —

[Shamir] To freeze normalization, limit the scope of ties, as part of the more important political goal of resuming a leadership role in the Arab world. The Peace for Galilee campaign served Egypt as an easy pretext and justification for limiting the ties and for further freezing normalization. Today, in retrospect, one can determine that this was nothing more than an excuse, because even after the agreement was signed with Lebanon in May of 1983, including an explicit Israeli undertaking to remove its forces from Lebanon, Egypt's opposition and continued refusal to return its ambassador and thaw the frozen ties continued.

[Mishori] Unlike Shamir, Bar-Lev said that Egypt is admittedly interested in reassuming its status as the leader of the Arab world, but this is not the reason for the freeze with Israel, which is the outcome of the incumbent government's policy. The prime minister described Egypt's conduct as an absence of any interest

in continuing the contacts toward promoting ties in various fields, all sorts of excuses not to send the ambassador back, and the hostile propaganda.

[Shamir] The conclusion from all the above is that they have no intention whatsoever of sending back their ambassador and reaching truly normal ties. We have continually made it plain that the behavior of the Egyptian Government brings to the fore, poignantly, the basic question of whether the Arab countries are ready for peace, and whether their leaders are capable of leading their people toward acceptance of peace with Israel.

[Mishori] Shamir said that we must pursue our path, caring for the country's security together with the incessant desire for peace. Bar-Lev's conclusion, on the other hand, is that the present government is incapable of dealing with the continuation of the peace process, and it is necessary to hold early elections. [end recording]

Al-Asad To Urge Cancellation of Camp David

TA071337 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Mar 84 pp 1, 11

[Report by S. Gabay, Y. Harif, Y. Tzuri'el, O. Granot, and M. Rahat]

[Excerpt] Syrian President al-Asad is about to concentrate his efforts on convincing elements in Egypt to cancel the Camp David accords, following the success of Lebanese President al-Jumayyil's unilaterally annulling the agreement with Israel "without any earth-shaking consequences," as the Damascus media put it.

The Syrian paper *AL-BA'TH* wrote yesterday that there can be no doubt that the cancellation of the Camp David accords by Egypt is not far off now. Official Egyptian reaction to the abrogation of the Lebanese-Israel agreement was restrained. The Cairo daily *AL-AKHBAR* fears a deepening of the rift in the Arab world in light of Damascus's attempts to do its best to bring all the Arab countries under its wing. The Egyptian foreign minister believes Israel must accept the security arrangements proposed by Lebanon.

Egypt's President Mubarak this week sent a reply to Prime Minister Shamir in which he reiterated Cairo's adherence to the peace treaty with Israel. Beyond this the letter contains no practical proposal for furthering the peace between the two countries which Prime Minister Shamir wrote about in his message to President Mubarak a short time ago.

Mubarak's letter was described by a political source in Jerusalem as "sterile and negative," without containing any operative suggestions on implementing Egypt's readiness to act in conjunction with Israel in order to further peace.

The letter ignores Shamir's appeal to further this goal; instead it is full of criticism of Israel. A conspicuous portion of it deals with the Palestinian question which, according to the Egyptian president, prevents progress in the peace process. The letter does not mention returning the Egyptian ambassador to Israel.

U.S. intervention for improving relations between Egypt and Israel did not help either. President Reagan noted, in a letter he sent to Prime Minister Shamir earlier this week, that he had raised the subject in his talks with President Mubarak at the White House, but the effort did not bear fruit and Mubarak persists in his stand.

Abu Nidal Organization Claims Ashdod Explosion

TA071211 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] A spokesman of Abu Nidal's terrorist organization in Damascus has announced that his personnel were responsible for the explosion in Ashdod.

Minister Burg on 'TNT', Police in Territories

TA071930 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg says there is no connection between the group suspected in the bus shooting and the suspects in the Temple Mount attack attempt. The investigation now is centering on whether there are more elements involved in these cases. Dr Burg told our police affairs correspondent Shlomo Raz that the Terror Against Terror [TNT] group does not exist according to his definition of an underground group.

[Begin recording] [Burg] The name TNT existed about 10 years ago. There was a group which used this name. Today it is very easy to telephone after every attack and say that TNT was responsible. At this stage we know nothing about the existence of such a group; this is the first thing. Secondly, the Temple Mount affair and the bus affair must not be linked; there is no connection, to the best of our knowledge. The shooting is a terrible thing, but what could have happened on the Temple Mount is hard to define. It could have amounted to a national disaster by international standards. However, these are people who are, to say the least, a little eccentric. Since we have placed the investigation under a blackout, I do not know whether I can say any more for the time being. The matter is under very intensive investigation. We want to know the ramifications of the cases, or whether there are more groups or private individuals who belong to them.

[Raz] Do you think that the argument of whether or not there is an underground has ended, or will it return?

[Burg] This argument is unnecessary, just as the argument whether organized crime existed was unnecessary. I maintained that there was organized crime. Afterwards the formula was found which said that there was organized crime, but Israeli style, rather than American style. The question is how you define underground. If you define it as a political movement that acts covertly — and we remember the days of the Irgun and LEHI movements [Jewish underground movements during the British Mandate] — such an underground movement does not exist, to the best of our knowledge. If you define it as anybody who does something covertly, then it does. [end recording]

The interior minister also said today that during the next year, police stations will be set up in Ari'el, Ma'ale Adummim and the Qatif bloc, and that the investigating force in Judaea and Samaria will be reinforced by 36 investigators, who will deal mostly with land transactions, many of which are suspected of being involved in fraud.

High Court Forbids Lawyer To See Suspects

TA080930 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0917 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] The High Court of Justice a short time ago rejected the petition submitted by lawyer Me'ir Schechter, who asked it to instruct the police to let him meet with the four detainees in connection with the attack on an Arab bus near Ramallah. The proceedings were held in camera, and conducted by three judges: Me'ir Shamgar, Gavri'el Bach, and Eli'ezer Goldenberg. The ban on meeting with the detainees is imposed until Saturday evening.

Our police affairs correspondent Alon Diskin notes that while the court proceedings were underway, Rabbi Kahana and a group of youths were seen wandering through the corridors of the courthouse, waiting for lawyer Schechter to emerge. As stated, the High Court of Justice turned the lawyer's petition down.

'Huge' Arsenal Uncovered Near Jerusalem

TA080613 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Mar 84 p 1

[Report by Robert Rosenberg]

[Excerpt] Police investigating the Temple Mount sabotage attempt, yesterday uncovered what they are describing as a "huge" weapons cache in the Lifta valley, at the entrance to Jerusalem. The three suspects so far arrested in the case lived in Me Neftoah (Lifta) for the last few years.

One hundred and seven grenades, 80 loaded magazines — for 'Uzi's and M-16's — two Claymore mines, eight fuses, six anti-tank bazooka shells, several dozen kilograms of high explosive, hundreds of metres of fuse wire and hundreds of detonators were found in an unspecified hiding place in the Lifta valley.

According to the police, the materiel was in excellent condition, and was still in its original IDF wrappers and cases.

Police were taken to Lifta easly yesterday morning by two of the suspects, who pointed out the cave in which the cache was hidden. Police believe that the materiel was either paid for with money from drug deals or stolen directly from the army.

Consultations Continue on IDF Redeployment

TA071253 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1110 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Here in Jerusalem consultations have begun to decide, in the shortest possible time, about a new IDF deployment in southern Lebanon and a unilateral implementation of security arrangements, in coordination with local elements and the United States. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer is now in the Knesset studio; he has heard something about these deliberations:

[Schiffer] This morning the prime minister began consultations with the defense minister, the chief of staff, senior Foreign Ministry officials, including the ministry's legal adviser Elyaqim Rubinstein, and other people. The goal now, after the abrogation of the agreement by the Government of Lebanon, is to act rapidly and bring about a new IDF deployment and unilateral implementation of security arrangements in southern Lebanon, relying on local elements. The goal is also to arrive at coordination and agreement with the U.S. Administration, which has cut itself off from Lebanon. However, consultations with the U.S. Administration will continue. What may be an interesting detail about today's consultations is that the IDF attache in Washington, Major General Uri Simhoni — who is currently in Israel and has, over the past few days, participated in talks about strategic cooperation with representatives of the United States — also took part in today's consultations with the prime minister. The prime minister had already decided that if there were hesitations a few days ago, and matters were left to develop as they would — and it was said that the situation is fluid now after the Lebanese abrogation of the agreement — it was clear that Israel would move toward a speedy redeployment. The Army will present its plans, as it has already done in the past.

However, detailed plans will be prepared for this Sunday's Cabinet session, plans that will relate to what was said in today's consultations. The army heads will present these plans for a new IDF deployment to the ministers. Very soon the Cabinet is due to make a decision.

We may not be saying anything new here, since there has already been much talk about it, but the main point of the decision will be to thin out IDF forces in Lebanon, with a new deployment, and guarantee the country's security.

Knesset Defeats Motion To Investigate Lebanon War

TA071502 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1415 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The Knesset struck off the agenda a motion submitted by the Alignment and HADASH factions to set up a state commission of inquiry to investigate the war in Lebanon.

The justice minister said during the debate that there has never been a war that has been as openly exposed as the war in Lebanon, and never has there been a war like this one in which every move has been brought to the Cabinet for decision.

Our Knesset correspondent Gil'ad Mishori reports that Knesset Members Berman and Zeigerman of the Liberal Party voted with the opposition, but the motion was defeated by a majority of 42 to 33.

West Bank Officials Attend Knesset Debate

TA071530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Three notables from Judaea and Samaria came to the Knesset's Public Audit Committee session today to participate in the debate about law enforcement in the territories. Our correspondent notes that this is the first time that inhabitants of the territories have accepted an invitation from the Knesset. The three persons are the mayor of Bayt Jala, a lawyer from Ramallah, (Rajah Shihadah), and Muhammad an-Nasir, who was the head of the Village Leagues in Hebron. The three reported on the condition of the legal system in Judaea and Samaria, and on how they view the situation in the territories.

Witnesses Criticize Territories Courts

TA071631 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The inhabitants of the territories cherish full confidence and trust in the High Court of Justice, although Israeli officials lie and forge their testimonies before that court, Muhammad an-Nasir — the former head of the Hebron Area Village Leagues — said today in the first time Arab inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria have testified before the Knesset Public Audit Committee. Here is a report from the Knesset by our correspondent Rafi Mann:

[Begin recording] As will be recalled, the Knesset Public Audit Committee summoned Attorney Ziyad Abu Ziyad, but following a sharp dispute and difference of opinion among the members of the committee, he was asked to leave the room — together with the representatives of the settlers — before completing his testimony, and presenting his position. Today Ziyad Abu Ziyad did not appear, having earlier sent a letter explaining that he was offended the last time. Yet three other Judaea and Samaria Arabs did appear and presented their views on the questions of the application and enforcement of law in territories. Attorney (Rajah Shihadah) from Ramallah protested the fact that the military government interferes with the local justice system, and sometimes even transfers suits debated by Arab courts to military courts. Muhammad an-Nasir, the former head of the Hebron Hills Area Village Leagues expressed his opposition to collective punishment. Stone-throwing incidents involving little children is no reason for penalizing many inhabitants, An-Nasir said.

His remarks triggered a sharp reaction by MK Dan Tikhon of the Likud, who protested the description of the stone throwers as innocent children. He also refuted An-Nasir's argument that Israeli officials lie in the High Court of Justice, and protested the slandering of the Israeli justice system.

An-Nasir said that the complaint notwithstanding, the inhabitants of the territories have full confidence in the High Court of Justice.

Representatives of the civilian administration will respond to the complaints raised by the inhabitants of the territories in the next session. At the end of the series of debates, the committee — headed by MK Avraham Katz-'Oz — is expected to decide whether or not to request the state comptroller to submit an opinion on the administrative and legal procedures in the territories. [end recording]

Further on Arab Testimony

TA071827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] For the first time in the history of the Knesset,dignitaries from Judaea and Samaria appeared before a Knesset committee. These dignitaries were invited to testify before the Knesset Public Audit Committee about law enforcement in Judaea and Samaria. Our correspondent Hayim Zissovitz reports from the Knesset:

[Begin recording] [Zissovitz] The picture painted by the Arab dignitaries before the members of the Knesset Audit Committee was a harsh one, and none of the factors responsible for law enforcement in Judaea and Samaria came out unscathed. A lawyer from Ramallah, (Rajah Shihadah), blamed the military government for interfering in the local court's legal processes, and for transfering law suits in the middle of the legal process. Muhammad an-Nasir, former head of the Village Leagues in Hebron, blames the officials of the civilian administration for lying before the Supreme Court, which explains why the verdicts handed down are distorted. His words angered MK Dan Tikhon, who demanded that he be forbidden from injuring the credibility of the Supreme Court. The mayor of Bayt Jala also gave harsh testimony on the situation in the local courts of Judaea and Samaria. He said that in the local courts there is a trade of closing suits for bribery and money payments. He also had good things to say about the authorities who transfer to the local councils money which is collected from local inhabitants, and help them in development. It should be said that unlike the former session, in which the presence of Ziyad Abu Ziyad was hotly disputed, today none of the members of the committee had objections concerning the initiative of Chairman Avraham Katz-'Oz, perhaps because this time he carefully selected those invited.

[Katz-'Oz] I invited the persons after I personally checked — not through asking the intelligence services, since the intelligence services themselves are under the Knesset's inspection [biqoret], and also under our committee's inspection, and that of the state comptroller, and it would be illogical for me to invite witnesses to the committee that will have to be approved by the security authorities, and therefore I have not done so.

[Zissovitz] The dignitaries of Judaea and Samaria had many complaints, and the military government's representatives will answer them in the next session. [end recording]

David Levi Receives Lebanese Christians

JN070910 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 6 Mar 84

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi today received a delegation of men of religion from southern Lebanon and the

Al-Kharrub district who came to meet with him only 1 day after the abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. After the meeting, our correspondent Dov Rabinovich, interviewed both David Levi and Archbishop Aqnatiyus Ra'd, pastor of the Greek Catholic community in Sidon, Jazzin, Ash-Shuf, and the mountain, and reports as follows:

The abrogation of the agreement is considered a breach of a free pledge which the Lebanese Government had undertaken , and the Lebanese Government has obviously surrendered to the Syrian diktat. With these words David Levi commented on the abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement yesterday in his first statement on this subject.

Asked about the measures which Israel intends to take, David Levi said: Israel will take all the measures necessary to prevent a return to the previous situation, in other words the return of terrorist elements in southern Lebanon. Israel will ward off danger to its towns and villages. This is the main objective.

David Levi added: The inhabitants of southern Lebanon, especially the members of the Christian communities, want to cooperate in warding off this danger, which is also a threat to them. Israel will help these inhabitants in defending themselves. Israel expects them to control their own destiny and prevent the return of the terrorists to southern Lebanon.

David Levi categorically denied reports that Israel has any intention of partitioning Lebanon after the abrogation of the 17 May agreement. He said: What Israel aspires to is only the guaranteeing of security.

Asked about the southern Lebanese delegation's talks with David Levi and the purpose of the visit, Archbishop Ra'd says: [begin recording] We told the deputy prime minister that we are only a popular delegation, not an official, government, or political delegation. It is a delegation from the Lebanese Christian community to the Israeli people. Our delegation stemmed from the Christian rally which was held on 28 February in Jazzin, that free Christian rally which was held on 28 February in Jazzin. That free Christian rally, which embraced thousands of Christians, announced that it wanted peace with Israel and also open relations and cooperation in all fields for religious and cultural reasons. The religious reason is that our Christian religion considers all human beings as brothers and sons of one father, God. We cannot antagonize anyone. The cultural reason is that we have existed in this land for thousands of years. God has made us neighbors. Therefore, we should coexist and cooperate as neighbors. We came to say that.

We also told David Levi that peace for southern Lebanon and peace for northern Israel is one and the same thing and within one framework. Terrorism must not return to this area. For our part, we are ready to do our duty and we also ask Israel to do its duty in this regard. As you have heard from David Levi, this is a common objective.

[Rabinovich] Can you give us an idea of the reaction in southern Lebanon to the abrogation of the 17 May agreement?

[Archbishop Ra'd] The reactions were known beforehand. Those who wanted the abrogation were the allies of the Syrians and those behind them. They rejoiced in the abrogation. Those who did not want the abrogation, opposed it. The political system in Lebanon is democratic. It permits opposition. They said their word, and we are among them. We reject the abrogation of the 17 May agreement.

[Rabinovich] What are your expectations concerning the future of Lebanese-Israeli relations following the abrogation of the agreement?

[Archbishop Ra'd] We have understood from our contacts that official relations are bad in the first place, because Israel is very disappointed about what has happened. An agreement which was signed by three sides was abrogated unilaterally by one side. We are not here to tackle official relations between a state and a state or between a government and a government. We are here to tackle relations between two neighboring peoples who want cooperation and peace. However, we have understood from David Levi and before that from senior officials in the Israeli Foreign Ministry that the relationship between the two peoples and between Israeli officials and the Lebanese inhabitants on the border strip will not be affected by what has happened. This pleases us.

[Rabinovich] Thank you. [end recording]

Cabinet Split on IDF Line in Lebanon

TA071054 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 7 Mar 84 p 7

[Commentary by Moti Basok: "Where Will the New Line Pass?"]

[Text] The unilateral cancellation of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement will enable the government and security elements to finally decide where the new IDF line in Lebanon will be situated.

All indications are that a withdrawal will begin within the next few weeks. Security elements believe that time is not on our side now. The approaching summer means a far greater number of attempted attacks on our forces.

The question remaining is — how far do we withdraw? Most of the arguments focus on the Syrian question. Do we leave the high mountaintops, or do we stay on Jabal al-Barukh? Another even more important question is: Where will the new contact line with the Syrians be?

There are four groups of ministers in our government: The maximalists, the in-betweens, the minimalists, and those who invariably vote with the prime minister.

The first group includes Sharon and Yuval Ne'eman. Those two, between whom not much love is lost, want to stay on the Al-Awwali. They also support frequent and active IDF patrols beyond the river.

The prime minister and minister of defense want to withdraw to a line between the Az-Zahrani and the Al-Awwali. What is

primarily important to them is to get out of the town of Sidon.

The minimalists — Levi, Tzipori, Uzan, Hammer and Burg — want the IDF to withdraw to the Az-Zahrani, and minimum contact with the Syrians. To this end, this group — contrary to Shamir and Arens — is prepared to create a sizeable buffer zone between the IDF and the Syrians, which would be controlled by UN forces.

So far Lebanon has not demanded the removal of the Israeli representation in Beirut. Jerusalem attaches importance to this fact. It would seem, political circles say, that the pro-Israeli forces in Lebanon still have a say in things.

In the first stage following the abrogation of the agreement, The Shamir-Arens government would prefer to follow internal developments in Lebanon at a distance. The second pan-Lebanese reconciliation conference is due to meet in Geneva shortly, and Israel wants to see how Syria manages all the Lebanese offshoots, especially the Christians, Shi'ites, and Druze.

In the second stage, Israel, helped by a friendly third party, will probably try to make contact with Syria, in order to create a new understanding in Lebanon similar to that existing between the two countries from 1976 until the Lebanese war. It is not worthy that from the outset of the Lebanese war the Syrians broke off all indirect contacts with Israel. It now remains to be seen whether the abrogation of the agreement will render their stands more flexible.

Political circles in Israel have in the past few days pointed to the various Lebanese envoys — official and semi official — of all sects and communities arriving for talks in this country. They consider this a sign that, abrogation of the agreement notwithstanding, Israel's status in the land of the cedars remains firm. According to them, Israel will continue to nurture ties with its friends among the Lebanese people. This time, unlike the past, Israel will not put all its eggs into the Maronite basket.

Further Talks With Al-Jumayyil Predicted

TA060922 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Mar 84 pp 1,2

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpt] Israel will continue talking with President al-Jumayyil, along with all the other elements in Lebanon. A senior political source who said this yesterday, following the abrogation of the agreement between Israel and Lebanon, did point out that there was no more point now in new agreements with Lebanon, and so there was no question of talks for the purpose of achieving a formal agreement.

Within the next few days political efforts will be concentrated on foiling the Syrian pressure on Al-Jumayyil to cancel the Israeli representation in Beirut. The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent comments that from a message that has arrived from Beirut, it emerges that Al-Jumayyil is going to act as a sort of mediator between Israel and Syria in contacts to achieve security arrangements in southern Lebanon, as a step toward a withdrawal of IDF forces to the international border.

It has been learned that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir does not intend to announce an Israeli withdrawal in the near future, so as to avoid giving the impression that Israel has surrendered to Syrian pressure. A delegation of Maronites and Phalangist leaders that arrived in Israel yesterday for talks with senior ministers are working to continue the cooperation between Israel and the Christians. For several months Israel has been acting in the territories it is holding in southern Lebanon as though the agreement had already been abrogated. The contacts for the establishment of local forces which would take over control of the area are not taking the incorporation of the Lebanese Army into account, as was determined in the 17 May agreement.

Yesterday an authoritative political source confirmed that the attempts made recently to obtain security arrangements in southern Lebanon were not related at all to the role intended for the Lebanese Army as part of the agreement. The same source said that Druze leader Walid Junblatt and the leader of the Shi'ite militia, Amal, Nabih Birri, had expressed dissatisfaction over the fact that Syria overshadowed their status in Lebanon. In Jerusalem, it is hoped that these and other elements in Lebanon will move away from the Syrian patronage and be willing to cooperate with Israel, with the goal of bringing about the departure of all foreign forces from their country. Government sources emphasized that Israel was prepared to talk with Syria about arrangements in Lebanon, but reports arriving from Damascus indicate that the Syrian leaders are convinced that Israel will withdraw from Lebanon even without there being any change in President al-Asad's intransigent approach.

Jerusalem Sources Predict Long Stay in Lebanon

TA061145 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Mar 84 pp 1, 7

[Report by Eytan Haber, Arye Tzimuqi, Yehoshu'a Halamish and Smadar Peri]

[Excerpt] Israel will no longer take President al-Jumayyil's government's views into account, and from now on Israel will act as it sees fit and decide on its actions in Lebanon purely according to Israeli security needs. Last night political sources in Jerusalem said that following the unilateral abrogation of the 17 May 1983 agreement with Lebanon, the Government of Israel would no longer conduct negotiations with Beirut on our political and military activity in Lebanon.

The Jerusalem deliberations on an IDF redeployment in Lebanon are continuing at an accelerated pace, but some people — apparently including Defense Minister Moshe Arens — think there is no rush for an IDF redeployment, and that we should remain on the Al-Awwali River line, the current IDF deployment line, for a fairly long time.

However, there is a possibility of withdrawing the IDF at a later date to a new line. This would apparently involve staying 25-30-km from the Israeli border. This is more or less the range of the Katyushas now being used by the terrorist organizations. It is assumed that, in any event, the abrogation of the 17 May

1983 agreement by President al-Jumayyil will accelerate the decisionmaking process, and if a new line is decided upon, the withdrawal to this line will not be implemented for several months, certainly not before the middle of summer, if at all.

The current question is no longer whether the IDF will remain in southern Lebanon, but "how much of the IDF will remain there," and for how long. It is being assumed that the IDF will be there for several years. At the same time, it has been explained that we intend to keep a minimum number of soldiers in Lebanon to safeguard the northern borders.

It is assumed that the IDF's next deployment line will be based on one of the rivers, the Litani or the Az-Zahrani. However, it will not actually be on the river line, as is the case with the Al-Awwali line at present. The main intention is to bypass large population centers in order to reduce to a minimum the number of inhabitants in the area to be held by the IDF. By a withdrawal to the Litani line, the number of Lebanese inhabitants who are under IDF control will be reduced by about 50 percent. The number of Lebanese now in territory under our control is about 800,000, which would be reduced to 400,000.

The possibility is also not being dismissed of a return to the international line, the violet line, from Rosh Haniqra to Metulla, but this would be after the operation of local forces in southern Lebanon is guaranteed to safeguard the area close to our border from Sidon to the suburbs of Ad-Damur and Beirut, as well as An-Nabatiyah, Jazzin, Hasbayya and so on. This is called the "flexible line" — a return to the international borders with freedom of action in Lebanese territory, as required.

To date, no decision has been made yet on how to behave in the eastern sector, facing the Syrian Army. A withdrawal from there would mean giving up an observation point of prime importance, in Jabal al-Baruk. This would also mean removing the Israeli threat to Damascus, since IDF forces are currently positioned about 25 km from the Syrian capital.

In any event, Israel will reject the Lebanese proposal to decide upon security arrangements in the framework of the cease-fire committee, or the achievement of an alternative agreement with Amin al-Jumayyil, who has shown lack of credibility by his abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. The Government of Israel has sharply condemned the Syrian intervention in the abrogation of the 17 May agreement.

People in Jerusalem are pointing out that President Amin al-Jumayyil was never friendly to Israel and is known to have a pro-Syrian orientation, in contrast to his brother, Bashir al-Jumayyil, who was murdered. Amin has obstinately refused to meet with Israeli leaders, while he did not turn down Syrian invitations to Damascus whenever he got them.

For the moment, it is not yet clear how Amin al-Jumayyil will act with regard to the demand by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to cancel the Israeli representation in Beirut. It is also not clear how he will react to other demands by the Syrian ruler, such as the dismissal of Lebanese officers who cooperated with the IDF, or that Syrian officers should train the Lebanese Army instead of U.S. officers.

Chief of Staff Against Rapid IDF Withdrawal

TA071209 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1112 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Today Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi expressed opposition to a rapid IDF withdrawal from Lebanon. Appearing before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Lt Gen Levi said that there were no miracles on the Lebanese issue, and we must not delude ourselves that a withdrawal will solve the problems. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports:

[Golan] There is no question of miracles here, the chief of staff stressed to the members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. A rapid withdrawal will not solve the problems. The Alignment members, with Yitzhaq Rabin in the lead, at once objected. We have never spoken of miracles, they emphasized. The chief of staff's reaction was: My words were said in reaction to hopes among the public that an immediate withdrawal from Lebanon would solve all the problems. There are no quick solutions either to terrorism or potential Syrian threat, the chief of staff emphasized.

Here are some other points from Levi's remarks: There is no central rule in Beirut that can prevent the terrorists' return, and 2,000 of them have already returned to the Lebanese capital. As for southern Lebanon, the IDF has a firm understanding [have not] with the Druze and other elements regarding our security needs north of the Al-Awwali River.

The Likud Knesset members did not express themselves at the committee meeting. Yosi Sarid, Alignment, claimed that the whole story of the essential 45-km range was a bluff. The terrorists had no artillery with such range, and so the new deployment, in his opinion, is also not connected to the 45-km line. Victor Shemtov, MAPAM, demanded that a debate be held in the committee about the abrogation of the agreement between Israel and Lebanon. Yitzhaq Rabin supported Shemtov's demand, and the chief of staff said that the status of the agreement's abrogation was not yet absolutely clear from the formal aspect. There were elements in Lebanon which did not accept the abrogation of our agreement with them, and they still intend to rely on formalities to claim that the agreement has not yet been abrogated. Someone suggested that they appeal to the 'Afula court, and someone else suggested that these elements in Lebanon appeal to the international court in the Hague. At the session, Shemtov asked why we were still on the Al-Awwali line. Two previous chiefs of staff, Hayim Bar-Lev and Mordekhay Gur, committee chairman Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, and MK Ya'aqov Tzur, all asked for a debate on the salaries and status of people from the standing army. Such a debate will be held soon.

Lubrani: No Lebanese Message on Security Agreements

TA071520 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1455 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Coordinator of Activities in Lebanon Uri Lubrani says that we have received as yet no official message from Beirut about negotiations on security arrangements in southern Lebanon. He adds that the possibility of an agreement on security

arrangements with Lebanon does not exist from our viewpoint. Lebanon has already violated one agreement. Uri Lubrani talked with our military correspondent Doron Rosenblum.

Al-Jumayyil Proposes Armistice-Like Security Talks

TA080822 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
8 Mar 84 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Niva Lanir and military correspondent Tali Zelinger]

[Text] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has given the go-ahead to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil to offer Israel negotiations on security arrangements in southern Lebanon under UN auspices.

The framework for the negotiations, as suggested in the talks held recently in Damascus, would be similar to the composition of the 1948 armistice committee in which UN, Israeli, and Lebanese representatives participated. Al-Jumayyil has transmitted a proposal in this spirit to Jerusalem, the *DAVAR* correspondent has learned from knowledgeable sources.

As far as is known, Al-Asad presented Syria's role in those negotiations as "under the table;" namely, that it will not be party to the negotiations, but will give its consent.

The Israeli-Lebanese armistice committee — like the joint Israeli, Jordanian, Egyptian, and Syrian committees — operated until the breakout of the 6-day war in 1967. The establishment of the committees and their operation constituted part of the cease-fire agreements signed after the war of independence.

The permanent locale of the Israeli-Lebanese committee was in Rosh Haniqra, where a UN officer is still situated.

Contrary to earlier reports, sources in the defense establishment made it clear last night that the Israeli liaison office in Lebanon is still active, adding that there has been no appeal by Lebanese Administration officials to us to take our men out and close the office there.

Government Protests U.S. Contacts With PLO

TA080809 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
8 Mar 84 p 3

[Report by the Knesset Correspondent]

[Excerpt] Deputy Minister in the prime minister's office MK Dov Shilansky said yesterday that Israel had protested to the U.S. Administration over the indirect contacts held by lower-level officials of the Administration with the PLO.

"Israel's policy toward the organization calling itself the PLO is clear and known. The United States had undertaken a commitment in this regard, and we expect it to stick to it unconditionally, because only this way can we sustain the chance of resuming the peace process," MK Shilansky said in response to two motions to the Knesset agenda on the issue.

Jordanian Military Buildup Near Syria Reported

TA080808 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
8 Mar 84 p 1

[Report by correspondent in West Bank]

[Text] West Bank residents who returned from Amman yesterday reported that the Jordanian Army had been instructed to reinforce its deployment along Jordan's northern border with Syria for fear of terrorist attacks by members of the dissident Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] organization.

According to those people, the Jordanian Government is greatly concerned about the prospects of such activity by Abu Musa's men, who are inspired by Syria.

The Jordanian-Syrian border, which has so far been open to limited traffic only, is now nearly completely sealed, they added.

Sidon Port Remains Closed for 4th Day

TA070958 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0952 GMT
7 Mar 84

[Text] The Sidon port is now closed for the 4th day in a row in accordance with IDF orders. Large IDF forces, together with members of Lebanese militia groups, are patrolling and stopping merchants and fishermen from approaching the quay.

Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that several ships that want to unload their cargoes are waiting outside the port.

IDF, Sidon Merchants Meet

TA071527 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1450 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Southern Lebanon, 7 Mar (ITIM) — IDF officers in Sidon this morning met with representatives of the merchants in the port of Sidon, and demanded that they finance security in that place.

"You are responsible for the incidents, so you will have to prevent them," the IDF officers told the merchants.

The latter again approached the IDF with the request that the port be reopened so that they could resume normal life.

The IDF again told them that the "port will be opened again once we arrest the perpetrators of the terrorist attack." Reinforced IDF units are still patrolling the port, and civilians are still being prevented from reaching the port vicinity.

Briefs

Unemployment Statistics — In February the National Insurance Institute received 13,567 requests for unemployment compensation. This is an increase of 25 percent compared with the previous month. Some 4,000 requests were new ones and represent an increase of about 40 percent compared with the previous month. This is a peak figure for new unemployed who had to be dealt with by the National Insurance Institute during the course of 1 month. These data indicate a continuation of the trend toward a rise, both in people seeking work and in unemployed, a trend that began several months ago. [Text][Tel Aviv *MA'ARIV* in Hebrew 6 Mar 84 TA]

Subsidized Food Prices Rise — Prices of subsidized basic commodities went up at midnight, 5 March, by between 11 and 35 percent. Also on 5 March the Knesset subcommittee on water rates decided to raise the price of water by 8.4 percent. [Jerusalem *THE JERUSALEM POST* in English 6 Mar 84 p 1 TA]

Soviet Jewish Emigration — Only 90 Jews left the Soviet Union last month. Of them, 49 immigrated to Israel. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that since the beginning of this year, 178 Jews left the Soviet Union, 40 percent of them immigrated to Israel. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 7 Mar 84 TA]

OAU Council of Ministers Closing Session Reviewed

AB071138 Dakar PANA in English 1735 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, 6 March (PANA) — The foreign ministers of Niger and Kenya launched an urgent appeal Monday night to member states of the OAU to restore the organization's financial situation to normalcy.

This, according to ministers, is an essential factor of solidarity and a prerequisite for the survival of Africa.

The two ministers launched this appeal during the closing session of the 40th ordinary session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity which adopted during its last two sessions about fifteen resolutions, one of which called on member states to show more concern for the credit-worthiness and honour of the organization.

Other resolutions adopted are related to political, economic and social questions. These include Afro-Arab cooperation, the problem of southern Africa, the refugee question, the industrialization of Africa, EEC-ACP [Africa, Caribbean Pacific] relations, the serious economic situation facing the continent, inter-regional cooperation, pharmaceuticals and disabled persons.

During the closing session which began at 2230 in Africa Hall, Foreign Minister Oumarou of Niger, who chaired the session's deliberations, expressed satisfaction at the atmosphere of frankness, understanding and tolerance in which the meeting was held. This atmosphere, according to Mr Oumarou, is evidence of the maturity of African states and their determination to attain their objectives.

Mr Oumarou said the spirit of responsibility, the importance of the viewpoints expressed and the effectiveness of analysis demonstrate that African countries are resolved to honour their obligations with the OAU, which is facing a serious financial situation. It also shows their determination to keep up the struggle for the liberation of southern Africa, which is passing through a crucial period. Mr Oumarou blamed the continued deterioration of the situation in southern Africa on Pretoria's intransigence and renewed acts of aggression.

He said the main objectives of African countries remain unchanged: the struggle for Namibia's independence and the eradication of apartheid, the achievement of majority rule in South Africa and the building of a free and just society where all are equals.

In his statement, the Kenyan foreign minister pointed to the exhaustive manner in which the discussions were held, in the spirit of the opening speech of the Ethiopian president a week ago.

The current chairman of the OAU, he continued, called on us to assume our responsibilities and devoted special attention to the draft budget for the 1984-1985 financial year. The Kenyan minister therefore urged all member states of the organization to accordingly assume their responsibilities and quickly translate into concrete terms their commitments as demonstrated by their adoption of the said budget.

He said the financial situation of the organization is not particularly impressive and appealed to member states to meet their commitments fully. He called for solidarity, drawing attention to the foreign influence in the crises Western Sahara and Chad which is capable of destroying African Unity.

A collective attachment to the OAU will help African countries overcome their differences as well as meet their wishes and aspirations, said the Kenyan minister moved the motion of thanks and gratitude to President Mengistu and the people and Government of Ethiopia as well as the acting OAU secretary general, Dr Peter Onu [sentence as received]. The motion was immediately adopted with acclamation.

The acting secretary general of the OAU is expected to hold a press conference today at the OAU General Secretariat.

Onu Assesses Results

LD071218 Algiers APS in English 1011 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Addis Ababa 7/3 (APS) — In a press conference held yesterday at the OAU seat in Addis Ababa, Dr Peter Onu, OAU interim secretary general, pointed out the seriousness which characterized works of the last OAU ministerial session, which devoted three days to the examination of the budget.

We have, Dr Peter Onu declared, devoted three days to the examination of the budget; that shows, he said, the seriousness of the economic situation of our continent. In this frame Dr Peter Onu announced that new reports have been set up regarding the arrears of contribution that certain member states have to pay. Only one political point was discussed during this conference. It is austral Africa, with notably the evolution of the situation in occupied Namibia and in South Africa. Regarding these two regions, the Council of Ministers, Dr Peter Onu pointed out, adopted resolutions asking for the acceleration of the independence process of Namibia and firmly condemned Pretoria's racist regime for its illegal occupation of Namibia and for its destabilizing aims against countries of the region. On another turn, the council expressed its comprehension and its deep sympathy for the diplomatic efforts made by Angola and Mozambique to preserve the independence and their national sovereignty. This resolution is relating to the last accords concluded between South Africa on the one hand and Mozambique and Angola on the other hand.

ALGERIA

Iranian Foreign Minister To Pay Official Visit

LD071155 Algiers APS in English 1000 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Algiers, 7/3 (APS)— At the invitation of Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Politburo member, Iran Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati will pay an official visit to Algeria next Sunday. Mr Ibrahimi paid last year an official visit to Tehran.

Briefs

Envoy to France — The new Algerian ambassador to Paris is Mr Abdelhamid Mehri. Mr Mehri is one of the oldest figures of Algerian nationalism. [Excerpt] [Paris International Service in French 2115 GMT 5 Mar 84 LD]

LIBYA

Ties With Lebanon To Resume, Beirut Mission Reopen

LD071539 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1445 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The People's Committee of People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison today issued a statement in which it declared the resumption of political relations between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Lebanon after the removal of the causes that led to freezing them — after the tearing up and burning of the document of submission. The statement of the committee said the following:

The People's Committee of People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison examined the Lebanese Government's decision to abrogate the document of submission signed with the Zionist entity and recorded its pride in the great historic victory achieved as a result of the continuing struggle cohesion between progressive Arab forces and the Lebanese national movement, and the Lebanese people's noble sacrifices and heroism for liberating their country and saving it from the slippery slope of the Stable David to return to their Arab environment, free and united. The committee also expressed its praise for President Amin al-Jumayyyil's courage, wisdom and patriotism.

On the occasion of the Libyan Arab people and the Arab nation's marking of this historic events and inspired by what was said by the leader of the 1 September Revolution the moment the abrogation of the agreement was announced, the People's Committee of People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison is pleased to announcethat it has decided to resume political relations between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Lebanon, now that the causes that led to freezing them have been removed after the tearing up and burning of the document of submission. Therefore the committee will start immediately the procedures for reopening the Libyan Arab Fraternal Bureau in Beirut to continue its task of strengthening fraternal ties between the two fraternal peoples. The committee also welcomes the opening of the Lebanese Republic's embassy in the Jamahiriyah to resume its activities at the earliest possible date.

Continued Reportage on Bulgaria's Zhivkov Visit

Al-Qadhdhafi, Zhivkov Banquet Speeches

LD071501 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Mar (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution last night hosted a banquet in honor of Chairman Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, who yesterday began an official friendly visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The banquet was attended by Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud. It was also attended by the secretary and assistant secretary of the General People's Congress, the secretary and members of the General People's Committee, the secretary of the Popular Committee for the Municipality of Tripoli, members of the delegation accompanying the chairman and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to the Jamahiriyah.

The brother leader of the revolution delivered a speech at the banquet. He started by saying: I have the pleasure this evening to welcome our dear friend Todor Zhivkov and the accompanying delegation. When we welcome him we welcome in his person the friendly Bulgarian people. We express our profound appreciation for the fruitful cooperation between the two peoples and I recall that your visit to our country a few years ago was an important step on the path of strengthening and developing cooperation and friendship between us. Also, I have fond memories of the visit which I paid to your friendly country last year.

He said that these consecutive visits show our firm determination to develop and strengthen cooperation between our two countries. We are confident that cooperation between our countries will continue and will progress with the passage of time, especially sinceour two countries enjoy political and social stability, a model example to the world torn by political conflicts and struck by a world economic crisis.

The leader dealt with the effect of the world economic crisis. He explained that the economic crisis has exposed the capitalist system and has confirmed its inevitable end, and has proved tht the capitalist system is the system of crises, unemployment, and war. He said: We are not surprised, therefore, when imperialist policies are directed toward war and confrontation to give a respite to the crisis which is strangling the capitalist system. We are not surprised that the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe is accompanied by the emergence of the present economic crisis. What is being said about this matter is also being said about all the aggressive military activities which imperialism is carrying out in the world like the ones we are witnessing in Lebanon, Egypt, Sudan, Somalia, Chad, Central and South America.

He added that all these activities, from which no continent in the world is free, and from which no sea or ocean is free, are natural products of the imperialist system which is facing this crisis. He stressed that world peace faces real dangers as long as the imperialist camp is still in existence on the surface of the earth. Consequently, we must not expect a peaceful policy from impe-

rialism in the world, because an active aggressive policy is in the nature of the imperialist camp. The leader said: All that is left for us is to strengthen the alliance for the sake of the forces of peace and the forces of progress in order to confront the aggressive imperialist policy.

The leader said: If the American people reelect Reagan this is proof that imperialism is bent on involving the world in new dangers and world peace will be in real danger. If this happens all we have to do is to intensify the struggle to repel imperialism and to force it to surrender. He stressed that the blow dealt to Reagan in Lebanon at the hands of the national Arab forces is sufficient to bring about his downfall if matters proceeded in a sensible manner in the United States. He explained that the imperialists are characterized by impudence and rudeness; therefore, Reagan could steer the American Administration once again in spite of this hot and bloody slap in the face.

The leader pointed out that the economic crisis which the world is facing has shown the prestige and the soundness of the socialist course in the world. He said that the world is noticing that the socialist countries have not been affected to any appreciable extent by the economic crisis in comparison with the intense problems suffered by the capitalist countries. The regimes which put their faith in imperialism are the ones which are being exposed to fierce tremors which in the future will bring about their end.

The leader of the revolution explained that the regimes which do not follow the socialist course have been shaken by popular revolutions, revolutions of the hungry, the killing of scores and hundreds by police bullets and the imprisonment of hundreds of thousands because they asked for economic and political problem to be solved. He stressed that the Jamahiriyah has solved fundamentally all the economic and political problems by the application of the socialist course according to Jamahiriyah theory.

The leader said that Bulgaria, a member of the socialist community, and Libya, which solved its problems according to Jamahiriyah theory, enjoy a sound political and economic system that lets us proceed with confidence to build future and joint cooperation between us.

The leader said that our offshore oil discoveries are enormous and exceed all our previous discoveries on land, something that will enable Libya to enjoy a lengthy future with an enormous oil wealth exceeding that of all the countries of the region and possibly in the world, in addition to a sea of sweet water discovered undergound which has led to the construction of the great man-made river which will change the face of Libya, God willing, regarding agriculture in a few years.

The leader went on to say that despite our appreciation of the scale of cooperation between our two countries, this will be dwarfed by the expected cooperation between us in these spheres, since we possess these huge potentials. In this respect I would like to mention with appreciation your desire to increase the volume of expected future cooperation. He explained that the contracts being fulfilled by the Bulgarian companies now are in excess of $1 billion in communications, construction, services, agriculture, and health. Discussions are taking place about large contracts in various spheres. About 9,000 Bulgarian citizens are participating in varius construction projects in the Jamahiriyah. He pointed out that the value of imports from bulgaria have reached about 100 million Libyan dinars and the value of exports to Bulgaria has exceeded this figure in recent years.

In his speech the leader stressed that building progress needs peace without any doubt. However, it is difficult to provide an atmosphere of peace in the face of the imperialist designs which I have already mentioned. This confirms the importance of the struggle to crush and destroy imperialism for the sake of peace and progress. He pointed out that the struggle against imperialism is in defense of peace and this is a strategic and historic aim which links our struggle with the struggle of the socialist community. For this purpose Libya backs all the efforts of the socialist community for peace and supports without reservation the proposals put forward by the socialist community at the Stockholm conference. He explained that in order to create an atmosphere that is suitable for progress and development the tensions directly created around us and around Libya must be removed.

He added that while we are speaking about cooperation and peace, talks are taking place today in Khartoum between the American Administration and its agents in Khartoum about war and dealing retaliatory strikes at Libya. This was officially announced by the head of the regime in Khartoum against Libya and Ethiopia. While we are speaking about the need to build bridges of cooperation among nations the American Administration is setting up weapons bridges to Ndjamena, to Khartoum, to fascism in El Salvador, and to Chile in addition to reinforcing its bases in the Indian Ocean, in the Near and Middle East and in Western Europe, and with total disregard of world peace and people's rights it encourages neo-Nazism in Palestine.

The leader stressed that in order that the peace march and cooperation among people may advance there must be a state of alliance in order to destroy the imperialist bases and to drive the imperialists back to their borders. Hence, there must be an international demand for the French forces which occupy Chad and the Zairian forces to be withdrawn and for the American expert to be withdrawn from Chad.

He said that France's presence in Chad is not based on any legal right and there is no treaty or agreement between france and Chad allowing it to deploy huge forces in Chad and to occupy it inch by inch. Thus the French presence in Chad is a colonial imperialist presence that has no justification, neither before the French people nor before the international community.

The leader stressed that Libya only wants the unity of the people of Chad, the freedom of the people of Chad, the realization of peace for the people of Chad and the countries neighboring Chad. Since the struggle against imperialism is a struggle for peace, Libya continues to support the Lebanese people and the liberation of their land from the Zionist forces and continues to provide unrestricted support for the Palestinian people to liberate Palestine inch by inch from Zionism. We shall continue in this course, according to these principles, in supporting the Islamic revolution in Iran and in supporting the revolution in Central and South America against fascism and against imperialism and we shall continue developing the alliance with the Egyptian people

as we allied ourselves to the Lebanese people, in order to bring about the collapse of the Camp David accords which were imposed on the Egyptian people, to liberate Egypt from Zionist and imperialist hegemony. The leader also declared our alliance with the people of Sicily against the American nuclear missile bases in Comiso and our alliance with the Green Movement and with the peace movement in Europe against American missiles, the deployment of which is viewed as a signal for the destruction of Europe at the first confrontation.

The leader concluded his speech by saying: Your visit, dear friend, President Todor Zhivkov, in addition to developing cooperation between our two countries, without any doubt will enable us to exchange views about international issues and unify our struggle against the common enemy. As we have already stressed in our talks today the cruise missiles in Comiso can be targeted on Bulgaria and they can be directed at Libya at the same time. Long live Libyan-Arab-Bulgarian friendship. Long live our joint struggle against imperialism. Death to the common enemy.

President Todor Zhivkov expressed in his speech delivered on this occasion appreciation for the generous hospitality and warm welcome which he and the accompanying delegation have enjoyed since arriving in the Jamahiriyah. He said:

I have the pleasure to express once again the profound respect which we and the Bulgarian people have for the Libyan Arab people and their valiant struggle against colonialism, facsism and against imperialist oppression, and for liberation, independence, and social progress.

He added: Four years have passed since my last visit to your friendly country. However, we know and we see that it has taken large strides forward toward social and economic progress during this short period. He underlined the important role which the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has taken upon itself in the international arena and the effective support it extends to the struggle of the anti-imperialist people for freedom and national independence.

President Todor Zhivkov said: Here in the circle of friends and in an atmosphere of confidence and friendship we revive the beautiful memories left with us during previous visits to your country and our meetings and talks both in Tripoli and Sofia. He underlined the positive results achieved by the visit of the brother leader of the revolution to the People's Republic of Bulgaria in January 1983 which contributed to raising the scale of cooperation between the two countries. The general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria expressed his satisfaction with the progress of bilateral cooperation in various spheres. He said we are certain that our actual potentials and our requirements and the social, economic, and political development in the two countries are the basis that will enable us to develop more effective cooperation in the interest of the two friendly people.

Chairman Todor Zhivkov said: I am certain that this meeting with you will lead to further strengthening and extending bilateral political relations in the sphere of economic, technical and scientific cooperation and will help in developing cultural exchanges between the two peoples. This meeting will be a new step on the path which we chose together, namely the path of friendship and fruitful cooperation in all spheres.

The Bulgarian leader underlined the celebration which his country will be observing on the 40th anniversary of the 9 September Revolution and the successes achieved by the people of Bulgaria during the past four decades. He said that we have laid down historic construction tasks and the implementation of these tasks needs peace, security, confidence, and cooperation. Peace, confidence, security, and cooperation are necessary for our people and for the peoples of the whole world. Hence, we will continue to wage a firm struggle against the imperialist attempts to affect the international and military situation and we will struggle to prevent a nuclear war which threatens humanity.

He added that the antidemocracy and antiprogress forces have increased their activities and that the United States and its NATO allies have increased military expenditure, and are amassing new weapons of total annihilation regardless of the will and the aspirations of the peoples. The military establishments on both sides of the Atlantic began to deploy American medium-range nuclear missiles in some West European countries at the end of last year. As a result of this the possibility of a nuclear confrontation has increased. By this strategy and by these deeds imperialism seeks to exploit the strategic military balance between NATO and the Warsaw Pact in order to achieve military superiority.

He said: We cannot forget that American missiles in Europe do not only threaten the security of the European people including the security of the peoples whose governments have agreed to deploy the missiles but also threaten the security of the peoples of the whole world and could cause a world nuclear catastrophe and directly threaten other peoples in the Mediterranean Sea basin.

There is no need to explain the meaning of deploying cruise missiles at the Comiso base on the island of Sicily which is very close to your country. The Bulgarian leader stressed that the countries of the socialist community are pursuing a principled, constructive, and consistent foreign policy aimed at stopping the arms race and adopting effective measures for disarmament and strengthening international peace and security. However, in the present conditions when attempts are being made to violate the balance in the strategic military sphere and to create a new situation in the strategic military and political sphere, the Warsaw Pact cannot remain unconcerned. He said that the People's Republic of Bulgaria fully backs the measures adopted by the Soviet Union and the socialist countries and we consider them a firm basis for solving the major issues facing humanity.

He explained that at the same time the Warsaw pact is working to continue the dialogue with the West and to continue the negotiations providing that the other side enters them with frankness, realism, and on the basis of mutual equality and security. This is the gist of the proposals put forward by the socialist countries at the conference recently opened in Stockholm. He underlined that these proposals seek to strengthen security and confidence among countries and to adopt effective

measures for disarmament and the consolidation of peace in Europe and the world. The Bulgarian leader went on to say that the People's Republic of Bulgaria is very anxious about the tense situation in the Middle East, where the barbaric Israeli aggression against the sovereign state of Lebanon is continuing for the second year. He stressed that Israel could not have disregarded world public opinion and the resolutions of the United Nations and other international organizations with such insolence had it not been for the well-known U.S. support tangibly reflected in the American-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement. He said that the United States strongly helps its Israeli ally in its aggressive policy against the Arab peoples, in addition to taking part itself in the conflict in the region and extending its direct military intervention in the Middle East in order to impose a solution on the Arab peoples that will ensure its own interests and will encourage the Israeli designs to expand at the expense of the Arab peoples. He stressed that the tense situation in the Middle East requires the strengthening of unity and the unity of action of all the Arab countries and the forces struggling against imperialism and Zionism and demands the consolidation of relations with the forces of peace and progress in the world to restore the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon, to thwart the humiliating course of Camp David, and to solve the Palestinian question. He stressed that the People's Republic of Bulgaria will continue its full support for the struggle of the Arab peoples for a comprehensive and just solution to the Middle East question and for the establishment of lasting peace in this region which needs the immediate withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon and recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to establish their independent state.

Chairman Zhivkov went on to say: When we talk of the dangerous course of imperialism in the Middle East, we must note that it is one point of many in the world to which the octopus, which is trying to stifle the people's freedom and democracy in various parts of the world, is reaching. In ths respect, he underlined the imperialist plots in Chad, South Africa, Central America, Grenada, Nicaragua and Asia where imperialism is escalating plots threatening the peaceful development and the freedom of the peoples in the whole world. He added that the peoples and the progressive forces in the world have escalated their challenge and resistance to imperialist assaults. He stressed that the Jamahiriyah and Bulgaria actively contribute toward the unification of the anti-imperialist front and for the victory of principles, peaceful coexistence, democracy, and social progress.

Chairman Todor Zhivkov said at the end of his speeches: We highly appreciate our friendly relations with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and we are convinced that the result of our visit will contribute to strengthening the continuing development of Libyan-Bulgarian friendship for peace and for the common struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction.

6 March Evening Talks

LD071812 Tripoli JANA in English 1446 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 2, Mar 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Talks between the revolution leader and Todor Zhivkov, secretary-general of the Communist Party's Central Committee and president of the State Council in the People's Republic of Bulgaria began yesterday evening in Tripoli.

The talks were attended by Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud. It was also attended by Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah, secretary of General People's Committee for Agricultural Reform and Land Reclamations, Musa Abu Furaywa, secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy and Light Industry, Ibrahim al-Faqih Hasan, secretary of the General People's Committee for Social Security, and a number of experts and specialists.

As for the Bulgarian side the talks were attended by: Petur Mladenov, member of Communist Party Politburo and minister of foreign affairs, Aleksandur Petkov, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Central Council of the National Agroindustrial Union, Khristo Kristov, minister of foreign trade, and Ivan Sakarev, minister of construction and architecture [title and ministry as received].

The talks focused on strengthening and developing cooperation existing between the Libyan Arab and the Bulgarian people in economic, political and technical fields.

During the session two sub-committees were formed, a political and an economic one.

The revolution leader opened the session of talks with President Zhivkov by giving a speech in which he welcomed the guest president and his accompanying delegation, stressed the strength of cooperation relations between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The interest in developing and promoting it and finding future dimension for that relationship in the interest of mutual aspiration of the friendly Libyan Arab and Bulgarian peoples. [sentence as received]

At the end of this session of talks a close meeting was held between the revolution leader and Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the Communist Party's Central Committee and president of the State Council in the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

People's Committee Reminder on Egypt ICO Membership

LD072038 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1915 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Mar (JANA) — The People's Committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau issued today a commentary on the report by the committee entrusted by the fourth Islamic summit conference with contacting the Egyptian Government. Here is the text:

The People's Committe of the Foreign Liaison Bureau has read the report by the committee which was entrusted by the fourth Islamic summit conference with contacting the Egyptian Government with the objective of seeking from it an undertaking to adhere to the principles, rules and resolutions of the ICO concerning the Palestine problem and the Arab-Zionist conflict. The People's Committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau wants to recall in this context some of the ICO resolutions, including:

1. Paragraph 4 of the resolution concerning the Palestine problem issued by the 10th Islamic foreign ministers' conference, held in Fes on 12 May 1979, which provides for... urging all Islamic member countries to adhere to all the resolutions passed by the Islamic summit conferences and the foreign ministers' conferences concerning Palestine and work for their implementation as soon as possible and in particular those concerning the severing of political, economic, cultural, touristic relations, communications in all forms, and other forms of relations with the Zionist entity.

2. Paragraph 6 of the resolution on the Palestine question adopted by the extraordinary session of the Islamic foreign ministers' conference held in Amman on 12 July 1980, which states:

"The conference considers the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty as a plot against the Palestine question and the established rights of the Palestinian people and the Arab character of Jerusalem and the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and affirms its categorical rejection of these and its resistance to its consequences, and its rejection also of all the separate and partial solutions of the Palestine question."

3. Paragraph H of the resolution on Palestine and the Middle East adopted by the third Islamic summit conference held at Mecca and At-Ta'if on 28 January 1981, which states that resistance shall continue to the Camp David accord process and its consequences and effects until it collapses and its traces are eliminated and to any initiative stemming from it.

In the light of the above and out of consideration for the fact that the suspension of Egypt's ICO membership was the result of its signing of the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli Treaty, and consequently that Egypt's return to the organization was conditional on its severing its link with the Zionist entity, and in view of the affirmation made by the committee of the fourth Islamic summit conference as contained in its report, this means that Egypt had undertaken and pledged before the said committee to leave Camp David accords and join the member countries in adhering to the ICOprinciples and resolutions. However, if the Egyptian Government should continue with its commitment to these accords contrary to its abovementioned pledges, then the resolution suspending its ICO membership shall remain valid because the reasons that originally caused the adoption of this suspension resolution also remain.

MOROCCO

Minister Reports on OAU Council Meeting

LD071853 Rabat MAP in English 1206 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Rabat Mar 7 — (MAP) — Moroccan Minister in charge of cooperation Abdelouahid Radi flew back home Tuesday evening [6 March] coming from Addis Ababa where he attended the works of ministerial council of the Organization of African Unity.

Prior to his visit to Addis Ababa, Mr. Radi had represented Morocco at the ceremonies marking the independence of Brunei Dar-Salam. [sentence as received]

In a statement he made upon arrival, Mr Radi indicated that the OAU minsterial council had discussed a number of economic and political issues mainly Arabo-African relations, the Namibian issue, the refugees' problem, in addition to the economic and social conjuncture in Africa and the effects of drought.

The council adopted positive resolutions on all the debated issues, Mr Radi said.

The Moroccan delegation to the OAU ministerial council was led by the Foreign Minister Abdelouahid Belkeziz.

SUDAN

President Receives Reagan's Message of Support

JN071115 Khartoum SUNA in English 0910 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, Mar, 7 (SUNA) President Numayri yesterday received a message of support from the United States President, Ronald Reagan.

The message, which was delivered to the president by roving Ambassador Vermon Walters, expressed the United States, concern and grief over the recent attacks in southern Sudan and stressed that the United States support to the Sudan would remain firm.

We share your concern and brief over the recent attacks in southern Sudan. An American was injured and one of our leading companies has had to curtail its operations temporarily. Moreover, as friends of Sudan, we are distressed that our important work helping your people develop Sudan's potential is being interrupted, the message read.

It would be a mistake for others to attempt to exploit Sudan's difficulties. We are aware of the external support being given to dissident elements and consider it unacceptable interference in Sudan's affairs, it added.

Our support remains firm. We want to be helpful during this difficult period, and we look forward to a return of security and stability in the region, President Reagan said in his message.

KENYA

Energy Minister Biwott Receives Soviet Ambassador

EA071932 Nairobi KNA in English 1300 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Nairobi, March 7 — The minister for energy and regional development, Mr Nicholas Biwott, has called on superpowers to desist from testing new weapons at the expense of the lives of innocent human beings. He said that advanced knowledge in modern technology should be used only for the well-being of mankind and should never be used to destroy human beings. The minister said this when he received the USSR Ambassador to Kenya Dr Aleksandr Chikvadze in his office today.

Mr Biwott observed that Kenya was a member of the non-aligned countries and has maintained the policy of non-interference with the internal affairs of other countries. He said that the philosophy of peace, love and unity has made Kenya solve her internal problems amicably and make friendship with neighbouring countries. Noting that the USSR has greatly advanced in technology, the minister said that Kenya has embarked on efforts to learn from the USSR the technology of converting deserts into fertile zones.

On the issue of South Africa, Mr Biwott said that Kenya believes that Africa must be free from the yoke of colonialism and racism, adding that Kenya's stand on the liberation of South Africa and Namibia has been spelt out in the United Nations.

Mr Biwott, who was with the acting permanent secretary in his ministry, Mr Paul Kihara, hailed the good relationship that existed between the two countries, saying that trade relations and exchange of technology was commendable and expressed the hope that good relations existing between the two countries would continue to be strengthened.

Accompanied by the deputy head of the economic mission, Mr Dmitriy (Ryabovalov), the ambassador, who has been in Kenya for the last seven months, praised Kenya for the rapid growth since independence. He said that Kenya was known all over the world as a haven of peace in Africa, noting that the philosophy of peace, love and unity was the philosophy the world needed today for achievement of peace and good neighbourliness. Mr Chikvadze observed that the problem in Namibia was not only for Africa alone but was an issue that affected the whole world. He said that this generation has the great task to protect and to be mindful of the children and the future generation.

Dr Chikvadze hailed the relationship existing between the two countries, saying USSR has the same ideology as Kenya of peace and love.

SOMALIA

Foreign Minister Jama Barre Returns From UAE

EA072128 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Minister for Foreign Affairs Challe Dr Abdu Rahman Jama Barre and his delegation returned home today from an official visit to the UAE.

The minister said that during their working visit to the UAE they held talks with a view to promoting the Marere sugar development and Bardera water dam in Somalia.

The minister added that the UAE is one of the funding nations of these two major projects in the SDR, and that during the talks with UAE officials they agreed that the two countries should review the progress of the projects from time to time.

SDR Minister for Foreign Affairs Challe Dr Abdu Rahman Jama Barre further said that during his talks with senior UAE officials they also discussed current international crises including the Middle East, the Iraq-Iran war and the Horn of Africa's affairs. Both countries expressed their concerns and the need to find suitable solutions to the problems.

UGANDA

Government Denies Involvement in Kenya Coup Attempt

EA071859 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The office of the president has stated that there is no foundation whatsoever in the claims that the Government of Uganda was involved in the abortive coup of August 1982 to overthrow the Government of Kenya. A spokesman said the allegation made in the court martial now sitting in Nairobi is completely false.

He emphasized that the Uganda Government was never in any way involved in the abortive coup. No one in the Government of Uganda, the spokesman said, could have entertained any approach to the Government of Uganda by anybody in the overthrow of a sister governemnt.

The spokesman emphasized that the Government of Uganda has always enjoyed cordial and mutual friendly relations with the Government of Kenya. If any information about an impending coup in Kenya had reached the Government of Uganda, the same information, the spokesman said, would have been without any doubt whatsoever passed immediately to the Government of Kenya.

The spokesman recalled that a similar allegation about the alleged involvement of Uganda in the abortive coup was made on the evening of August 1st by a BBC correspondent, and the allegation was immediately denied by the Government of Uganda.

CHAD

Yodeyman Stresses Need for National Reconciliation

AB081230 Paris AFP in French 0908 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Paris, 8 Mar (AFP) — Chadian Minister of Planning Joseph Yodeyman stated on Thursday in Paris that Ndjamena would continue its efforts aimed at bringing together all Chadians with no exception, in preparation for a roundtable talk on national reconciliation under the auspices of the OAU.

Mr Yodeyman, who has been in the French capital for over a week, is leading a delegation charged with briefing Chadian opposition members on how President Hissein Habre's government is preparing national reconciliation in Chad.

It is indispensable that a negotiated settlement be reached in the Chadian conflict, as past experience proves how "military victories are short-lived and illusory," he said during a meeting with newsmen.

In Paris, the Ndjamena delegation met about 15 former Chadian personalities, Mr Yodeyman announced, expressing the hope that the "consensus" reached on this occasion would remain "valid," in spite of its rejection by the "group of Chadian patriots and democrats" led by former Ambassador Jean Bawayu Alingue. Ndjamena's wish is to meet the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] (armed opposition to President Hissein Habre) or some of its constituent factions, without any preconditions, added Mr Yodeyman, stressing that moves which have been made in this direction have up till now been in vain, because of the "intransigence" of Goukouni Oueddei's representatives. The Chadian minister said that the GUNT was the "fiction" which allowed Libya to "justify its intervention in Chad."

Questioned on the recent visit of French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson to Libya, Mr Yodeyman was not able to state the outcome, adding that he was not aware of an exchange of information between the French and Chadian Governments. (At that time Mr Yodeyman was in Brazzaville, where he led a delegation which was charged with making contacts with Chadian opposition members residing in Congo.)

The Chadian delegation, which in Paris held talks with representatives of many French political parties such as the Rally for the Republic, the Union for French Democracy, and the Socialist Party, is to meet today with Christian Nucci, minister delegate to the Ministry of External Relations for cooperation. It will leave Paris for Ndjamena on Friday.

ZAIRE

Moroccan Envoy Brings Message from Hassan

AB071535 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Abbas el Fassi, Moroccan minister of traditional industry and social affairs, was received in audience today by First State Commissioner Kengo wa Dondo. Citizen Nyiwa Mobutu, secretary of state for foreign affairs, was present at the audience. Abbas el Fassi was bearer of a friendly message from King Hassan II to President Mobutu Sese Seko.

[Begin recording] [El Fassi] I have just been received by the first state commissioner of the Republic of Zaire to whom I delivered a written message from His Majesty the king of Morocco to his brother, President Mobutu Sese Seko. As you know, the relations between Zaire and Morocco are privileged relations and the bonds uniting our two heads of state are solid ties based on friendship, solidarity, and mutual respect. It is normal, therefore, that the two heads of state should from time to time exchange views on the problems facing the international community and particularly our continent. It became clear during this audience that Zaire and Morocco are motivated by the same ideals and that they are making the necessary efforts to safeguard African unity as well as the unity and cohesion of the OAU and to defend legality within our organization.

[Question by unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, African unity partly depends on the Western Sahara problem with its recent development, that is, the recognition of the Sahara by Mauritania and Upper Volta. Did you have time to discuss this problem? What is the position of our two countries?

[El Fassi] In fact, by recognizing this Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, Mauritania and Upper Volta no longer recognize the OAU's decision to organize a referendum. To recognize a state before knowing the result of the referendum amounts to getting ahead of schedule and a failure to recognize the decision of an African summit conference. Moreover, we in Morocco believe that the recognition of the (?absurd) Saharan Democratic Arab Republic forms part of a plan of hegemony made by Algeria which has just proved that it no longer wants a referendum. Algeria and its friends have always called for a referendum. We in Morocco had (?rejected) the referendum because we (?know) that Western Sahara is part of Morocco. But later, some friendly African countries including Zaire advised His Majesty and asked him to make a sacrifice [words indistinct]. We therefore accepted the referendum [words indistinct]. [end recording]

GHANA

Rawlings Address Envisages National Assembly

AB062100 Accra Domestic Service in English 1826 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Speech by Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, marking Ghana's 27th Independence Day celebration, on 6 March in Accra — live]

[Excerpts] Fellow countrymen and women, 27 years ago, when we won our independence from colonial rule, the people of this country stood on the threshold of a new era — a new beginning free from the political, social, and economic inequalities and contradictions of the past after a just and popular struggle. They were poised for the realization of a new order where freedom and justice would be the pillars of a new social, political, and economic order. It was a day of joy in the pride of the will of the people over the forces of exploitation and domination and a day of hope in the future of achievement and abundance for all. Our national pride was very high and no one could take away from us our justly won credit for that indomitable strength and unity of purpose — an action which has brought about other victories.

Today, on the 27th anniversary of that day of hope and freedom, it is only right that we pause to take stock of the generation of independence. A child born on that day would now be a citizen 27 years old. Let us pause to take this young person around our country to take stock with him of the experiences of his adult life as a citizen of our time. After 27 years of political sovereignty, very few of us at any level of authority or in any sector of activity or in any private endeavors can now say he is in a position truthfully and honestly to be satisfied with the condition of this nation. Our regions, our cities, our towns and villages are indeed in the conditions of our own personal, individual lives. The hard and bitter truth is that in several years of national effort, the governments and people of our country have failed to work together to implement policies and programs necessary for the achievement of reasonable standards in our living conditions. Basic needs for food, health, transport, shelter, and recreation remain largely unfulfilled and out of reach of the majority of our people. There is evidence of mounting despair, deepening apathy, and growing withdrawal and rejection of national responsibility on the part of the ordinary people. All this is very wrong.

Our government believes this is the time to start formulating and discussing the basic outlines of the new political system that we aim to build. Such a system must derive its solidity and strength from our own historical sources, the realities of our own situation, and the intellectual values of our own traditions and cultural heritage, for it is only in this way that the constitutional, political, economic, and social order correctly reflect the will of our people and demonstrate the power, the power of the people, which guarantees its validity and provides an indestructible bulwark against its very own subversion.

We believe a system of government can claim to be fully democratic only if the organs of government and state power are constituted by the general representatives of the people. We would like once again to affirm our commitment to a representative government. In our view, this principle could be fulfilled by a national assembly. It is our intention to work towards the emergence of a representative national assembly which will be the supreme organ of government and state power through election processes. The membership of the national assembly will be so composed as to make it truly representative and democratic with respect to the interests of the ordinary people of this country. Furthermore, in its functions and relationship with the people, the assembly will have to be accountable and responsible to the people.

In the search for a democratic system of government, much has been made of Western parliamentary institutions. Our experience in this country provides enough evidence to show that in their actual working, these institutions are dominated by the interest of the rich and influential members of the society. The vast majority of the population of the ordinary citizens, on the other hand, have always been left without any control over their so-called representatives. Members of parliament and ministers used their positions not to serve those who voted them into office but to promote their own and the interest of those who financed their interest into high office. This is why the people, in their practical wisdom, have rejected this sham democracy.

Fellow countrymen and women, the establishment of the new system of popular power and government that we foresee will not be an easy task. In fact, it will be a complicated and difficult task, for or because the old centers of power and vested interests will continue at every point to infiltrate and place obstacles in our path, always with the aim of subverting our efforts, and very often succeeding through your very own ignorance. Our only weapon against these hostile characters lies in the unity, organization, awareness, and constant vigilance of the citizens of this country who are committed to social justice.

As already indicated, the transition to our ultimate objectives cannot be anything but a process through stages. What we need to do now is to take further steps toward these goals, and one such step is to strengthen and enlarge the membership of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council]. This reorganization will improve the coordination of the main institution of the state and at the same time improve the channels of communications between all of us, and thereby broadening the social base of our pursuit for social justice. The details of this reorganization and the necessary legal amendments will be announced very shortly.

The primary task of the reorganized and broadly based executive body is to direct and supervise the work toward the new political structure. And I wish to emphasize the central role of the organized people in the creation and consolidation of the new structure. Nationalists have a critical role to play in this regard. At the same time, other mass organizations, such as the fully developed farmers' and fishermen's groups, women and youth organizations, the defense committees and labor movements, all have a very important and responsible role to play. Our military and police institutions also have a very important role to play in the revolutionary process toward ensuring justice. Local development and administration should be controlled by democratically elected representatives of the people of the village, town, or district, and each and every one of them should strengthen their ability to achieve results in local development and deserving the

respect, trust, and willing cooperation of the people they represent. In this process, the people of the locality should, will, and must have the right to recall them and to replace them at any time if they fail to live up to their expectations.

The proposed changes in the machinery of government are intended to create the necessary political condition for dealing with the difficult economic conditions facing us. We must constantly remind ourselves that the performance of our national economy, our ability as a nation to increase our national income, depends in part on external factors outside our control. Over the past few years, for instance, unfavorable external conditions and bad weather, which we all know, have combined to produce a crisis in all developing countries and a particularly great crisis in Black African countries.

Let me talk about Africa, including Ghana. For Africa as a whole, foreign exchange earnings and import capacity fell from $72.5 billion in 1982 to $63.6 billion in 1983, and I hope that means something to all of you. Given the fact that most of Africa's manufacturing industries depend so heavily on imports, they have been the most effective areas with respect to the earnings of our foreign exchange. These acute shortages became very widespread throughout Africa, particularly Sub-Saharan Africa; that means, including Ghana. What is worse, in 1983 Africa was faced with the worst food crisis since 1973-1974, when hundreds of thousands of people perished from starvation and malnutrition. Last year, for instance, as a result of exceptionally bad weather and the inability of African countries to import adequate stocks of food, as many as 22 African countries, all Black African sub-Saharan countries, required emergency food aid.

As you can see, all Africa is thus engulfed in a deep and fundamental crisis, a very serious crisis. Back to Ghana, and that holds for these African countries too. At the same time, our production of almost all commodities — food, minerals, timber, export and crop manufactures — have, as we all know, been declining for several years, and our efforts in the last 2 years have been checked by drought, alongside it with the growth of the national population. In these circumstances, there is a real danger that discussions about a meaningful living wage will be influenced more by blind emotion than by scientific and intelligent analysis, some of which we have already seen, such as the mention of 300 cedis per day. Absolute rubbish! The outcome of ignorant minds. Are such people enemies? When you talk about 300 cedis per day, there is no way we can get that money unless we close certain state institutions and say: You go home! And we will use your pay to pay others. The only other way is to go back to the white man, who will tell us he wants foreign exchange, gold, or cocoa money, to whom we will say: Some of our ignorant people are asking for 300 cedis per day. Could you therefore print for us some more cedis?

There are enemies and criminals in our midst who are in touch with some of those old criminal politicians, and because of the suffering situation in this country, some of these people in the leadership of the Trades Union Congress [TUC] — not all of them, we know them, some of them — think the best way of staying in their seats is to go on fomenting confrontational issues, such as the nonsense I described earlier on. And for those of us who do not understand, the mention of 300 cedis stuck in our minds and we think this is it. And you have no idea that they are asking for your downfall. That does not mean that we do not recognize the problem. Yes, we do. As the saying goes: You cannot build Rome in a day. What truth! It is very easy to destroy, but not so easy to construct.

My brothers and sisters, we have a problem. Yes, we no doubt do, but it is in the light of this that we should not forget that today the national expenditure has reached such an alarming height as against the resources available that the wise people of this country will not, and I support them, should not — we should not — permit such foolish activities. This sad state of affairs has developed and we inherited it today through careless planning, reckless use of resources, the creation of services and facilities with little awareness of their long-term detrimental effects. And today we are faced with the problems of adequately equipping all our educational institutions right from the very first cycle to the university level. Our hospitals, clinics, health posts, and so on have been built — it might interest you to know — throughout the country, and here we are faced today with the difficult problem of having to provide them with the necessary drugs. And to make matters worse, the little that can be provided are stolen by some of our very own workers and sold to vampires, if we are not selling them ourselves.

And we do not think this situation creates more problems for us. It is about time we started facing the truth. When I talk, you do not want to hear it. The man is always talking about moral fiber — morality. Are we not making matters worse when we continue this way? It is about time we stopped blaming others. We know them, we know the thieves; we are dealing with them. We have dealt with a sizeable proportion of them.

But now, let us turn our attention to our very own selves. [passage indistinct] Blunders have been committed in this country in the past which we are paying for today very dearly. Some of these situations have been compounded as we attempt to correct them by natural disasters, and scarce resources. The time has therefore come for all of us, young and old in every locality, to deliberate over these services, infrastructures, and institutions which the government cannot fully maintain in view of its present financial constraints and for each and every one of us to see how best we can contribute to improve upon them.

Fellow countrymen, our first year has been spent clearing the overgrowth and making a pathway. Our second year has seen us clearing sizeable space for serious constructional work. But that is not all. The past 2 years have brought to light a whole lot of suppressed situations, have brought to light so many feelings that so many of us have controlled; and in the process of airing them, they no doubt affected productivity. Some of us have seen the exercise of freedom by having to disobey [words indistinct] of authority. The third year has to see a different situation. The third year — our year — will have to be very constructive and very profitable. There will be no middle road. As I said, we will compliment you, the nation will, for doing what is right, but we will hit hard when you do wrong. We must, therefore, all endeavor to create, achieve, and consolidate the task ahead. After

all, if you and I as ordinary people, like some of our known nationalists — who are not ordinary, no doubt — have had to bear this suffering, this burden for so long, I mean we are just about nearing the point of having to give birth to what we have always been longing for. But it calls for a little more positive action, better organization, a little more dedication. And as these efforts of ours begin to bear the necessary fruits, do not make the stupid mistake of handing over your freedom to some criminals again. It happened over the years; we have known it. This country has never been through such painful search, painful times as we have gone through over the last few years. [passage indistinct] No! We cannot go on that way anymore. I told you before: You are government; I am government; you and I are part of it. But all I ask of you is for you and I to put in just a little more effort. If we could put in half the effort of the rural man, half the effort of the truly dedicated worker, the problem would be reduced; this burden will be reduced. And this is an appeal I make to you the soldier, to you the policeman, to that worker in the mine, in that factory, that farmer, that fisherman.

My fellow countrymen, not too long after 31 December, a few months afterwards, I was hearing from all kinds of quarters, from you, your quarter, mine, that the man has changed, the man is not like he was in 1979. I could put it down and analyze it for you. It is not me, it is not I who have changed; it is you! I have always fought for a dedicated cause; I have always fought for justice. You are the ones who have changed. When the People's National Party [PNP] moved in, and I told you how they did it; when they introduced shops for your work sites, a little commodity from your factories, you did not understand what they were doing to you: They were breaking your moral fiber. I told you that I knew they had succeeded one day under that very PNP regime when a manager was to be dismissed from the State Transport Corporation for attempting to do some balabule [profiteering] with the tickets. When the workers stood up to go on strike in defense of that thieving manager, I knew the PNP had achieved their objective.

When 30, 40 or 50 of you can join a public — I will not even talk about a tro-tro [intra-city transport service] — when you enter a state bus and all of you are being cheated by one driver and one mate and you cannot stand up in a state transport and insist and ensure of the correct price or even arrest that driver and that mate, you expect Mr Peprah, the Alhaji, or Jerry Rawlings to come and fight that cause for you? Then you are not ready for the revolution! What is wrong? Twenty-seven years of independence? What kind of independence?

Let us sit down and reexamine ourselves because the nobility that is residing in this country, the inherent dignity, the beauty of this country must emerge. We have to work. We have to put in a lot more dedication! We have to prevent the corruption and the pilfering in our revolution, the popular revolution. We need to restore the proper values in our relationship. My fellow men, with a little more dedication in our work, there is no doubt in my mind that this country will restore to herself and her people the nobility that is due to her. Thank you very much. Good night.

Rawlings Receives Message From Kampuchean President

AB072005 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has received a special message from the president of Kampuchea. The message was delivered by the country's foreign minister, Mr Hun Sen. He thanked Flight Lieutenant Rawlings for the opportunity afforded him to meet some members of government to exchange fruitful ideas. Mr Sen wished the PNDC success in the task ahead.

On his part, Flight Lt Rawlings said the struggle of the Kampuchean people is bitter, but once they stand for justice and a good cause, they will succeed.

Mr Sen has since left Accra for Benin.

MALI

ANC, SWAPO Delegations To Meet With Beye 6 Mar

AB071455 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] ANC and SWAPO delegations yesterday arrived in Bamako for a 1-week visit to Mali. They were expected to meet this afternoon with Alioune Blondin Beye, the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation.

NIGERIA

Council of State Sets Inquiry on Maitatsine Rioting

AB071635 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The National Council of State has decided that a judicial inquiry should be set up to look into the circumstances leading to the recent Maitatsine religious disturbances in Gongola state. In a communique issued after its meeting in Lagos yesterday, the council said that the panel should be given wide powers to find a lasting solution to the menace of the sect. The council also decided that the Federal Military Government [FMG] should assist the state by waving the internal loans deduction from the statutory allocations to the state for 3 months with effect from last month. This is to enable the state to meet the directive of the head of state to (?pay) all arrears (?outstanding) by the end of next month.

The council noted the efforts so far made by the FMG to procure and distribute essential commodities throughout the country, and urged the states to ensure that proper arrangements were made to distribute the goods to the grassroots.

It also reviewed extensively the issue of national security, law and order since the inception of the present administration, and took far-reaching decisions for immediate and long-term solutions to the waves of armed robbery and religious fanaticism. The council also decided that security committees at state and local govern-

ment levels should be resuscitated with immediate effect to enhance the effectiveness of the security agencies.

A Radio Nigeria Dodan Barracks correspondent said that the meeting also considered some draft decrees. It prepared them for approval to the Supreme Military Council, which will be meeting tomorrow.

FMG Donates Aid

AB071254 Lagos NAN in English 1242 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Yola, March 7 (NAN) — The Federal Military Government yesterday in Yola donated 1 million naira to the Gongola government in aid of the victims of last week's religious disturbances in the state capital.

Presenting the cheque to the acting military governor of the state, Lt Col Cyril Iweze, a representative of the Federal Government, Navy Capt Suleiman Saidu, said that the amount was part of the Federal Government's effort to ensure that all persons who suffered losses because of the riots were compensated.

Receiving the cheque, Lt Col Iweze said that the donation was a commendable gesture and said that the money would be used to alleviate the sufferings of displaced persons.

Increased Security in North

AB080810 Paris AFP in English 0730 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Lagos, Mar 8 (AFP) — Authorities in northern Nigeria have stepped up security precautions to meet local fears of new violence after the death of at least 536 people in riots in Yola, the capital of the northeastern state of Gongola, sparked by the fanatical Maitatsine sect.

Maitatsine followers who went on a week-long rampage were routed last weekend in a 45-hour military police operation. Some 900 people were arrested.

In Kano, northern Nigeria, where Maitatsine violence left over 4,000 people dead in 1980, security forces have reportedly mounted a massive manhunt for the fanatics, who are said to have regrouped there after leaving Yola. Dusk-to-dawn checkpoints have been mounted on all roads in and around Kano.

Thirty-six suspected sect members have been arrested in Kaduna State, while greater vigilance has been ordered in Borno State. Some 500 people were killed in clashes in the two states after the Kano troubles.

There are also conflicting reports about the whereabouts of Musa Makaniki, reputed leader of the Yola Maitatsine. He has been reported arrested but the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA said Tuesday he was still to be "identified." Another report said he was seen in Yola after the military operation.

Members of the Maitatsine sect, named after its former leader Marwa Maitatsine, who was killed during the Kano riots, are notorious for their ruthlessness and unorthodoxy. It is thought they derive joy from destruction and are fascinated by death, believing they go straight to heaven if they die propagating their religion.

Items such as radios, wristwatches, and books other than the Koran are considered taboo by sect members, who are also said to believe in protective charms such as the magical powder they rub on their bodies to ward off bullets. Their common identification mark is said to be a tattoo slightly below the chest.

Gongola Returning to Normal

AB071202 Lagos NAN in English 1001 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, March 6, (NAN) — The acting military governor of Gongola, Lt Col Cyril Iweze, said today in Lagos that there was no outbreak of measles in refugee camps during the recent religious disturbances in Yola.

Lt Col Iweze told Dodan Barracks correspondents during a short break in the Council of State meeting that the refugees were innoculated during the period as a preventive measure. Lt Col Iweze said that the refugee camps were being disbanded because there was no longer any need for them. He said that life had returned to normal and that the people who had earlier deserted their houses were returning.

Lt Col Iweze said that about 500 people died as a result of the disturbances.

Army Warns Against Violence

AB071215 Lagos NAN in English 1106 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, March 6 (NAN) — The army said in Lagos today that documents seized from the proscribed NPP [Nigerian People's Party] revealed that the party endorsed a plan for the purchase of arms and ammunition to cause widespread violence and destruction in the country.

A statement by the Army Public Relations Department, signed by the director, Lt Col Reuben Fashina, said that the NPP planned to spend 3 million naira to execute the plan it tagged "Lagos Plan of Action." The statement also said that the proscribed party had established guerrilla training camps in different parts of the country and embarked on the mobilisation of Nigerian workers to disrupt the economy through constant strikes. It warned members of the public to desist from any act capable of causing violence, adding "Any person or group of persons found to be involved would have himself or themselves to blame." It reiterated the present military administration's determination to protect the lives and properties of all Nigerians, adding that it would not tolerate any act calculated to undermine its authority.

Borno Police Ban Preaching

AB071252 Lagos NAN in English 1240 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Maiduguri, March 7 (NAN) — The Borno Police Command has banned open-air religious preaching to prevent the

religious disturbances in neighbouring Gongola from spreading to the state. The command said in a statement that it had restricted all religious activities to mosques and churches. The command appealed to members of the public to cooperate with it by reporting persons suspected to be religious fanatics to the police.

Religious Tolerance Advised
AB071250 Lagos NAN in English 1146 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Biu (Borno), March 7 (NAN) — The emir of Biu in Borno State, Alhaji Mustapha Aliyu, has said that the recent religious disturbances in post-primary institutions in the state were instigated by parents who were still "suffering from political hangover."

Addressing students and staff of the day secondary school, Biu, at the weekend, the emir called on students to concentrate on the studies and refuse to be drawn into religious disputes. Alhaji Mustapha, who was on a goodwill visit to educational institutions in the town, said that everyone was free to choose and practice his religion, adding that religious differences should not cause bitterness within an educational institution. He advised the students to maintain religious tolerance and to maintain law and order.

Idiagbon Sees Progress in Rescheduling Debt
AB072156 Lagos NAN in English 1656 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, March 7 (NAN) — The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig. Tunde Idiagbon, said today in Lagos that the Federal Government had made progress in the recent negotiations on refinancing the country's short term trade arrears estimated at 3.46 billion naira (about 4.5 billion dollars). Brig. Idiagbon said this at the monthly briefing of media executives at Dodan Barracks.

He said that the export credit agencies with insured arrears, particularly with the U.S., U.K., France, West Germany, Italy and Japan, were generally receptive to Nigeria's approach for a review and a rescheduling of the country's foreign debts. He said that the uninsured creditors who have accepted the refinancing proposals in principle had arrears of over 1.4 billion naira (about 2 billion dollars). This, according to Brig. Idiagbon, included all the major companies doing business with Nigeria, except Unilever, Blue Circle, and a few British firms. He said that on the conclusion of the negotiations, the total arrears would be repayable over a period of six years, including two and a half years of grace.

The minister of finance, Dr Onaolapo Soleye, recently led a Nigerian delegation abroad for the negotiations.

On negotiations with IMF, Brig. Idiagbon said that although there appeared to be a consensus on the earlier conditions by the Fund, final agreement had not been reached. He said that this was because of the IMF's insistence on a substantial initial devaluation of the naira. He explained that Nigeria left the IMF in no doubt that such a devaluation, under the prevailing conditions in the country, would be inimical to the over-all interest of the nation.

The chief of staff said that discussion on the issue would continue when the IMF team visited the country this month and in April.

National Debt Figures Released
AB080915 Lagos NAN in English 0855 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, Mar 7 (NAN) — Nigeria's total external debt stood at 11.1 billion naira as at Feb. 1, 1984, the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig Tunde Idiagbon, has said.

Brig Idiagbon said during this month's briefing of media executives in Lagos today that as at that date, federal and state government owed a total of N21.991 billion.

The Federal Government alone was indebted to the tune of N17.153, about 78 percent of the total internal debt, while state governments were owing N4.8358 billion, he said.

The chief of staff said that about 83.6 percent of the internal debt were short-term loans, adding: "It should be clear, therefore, why the government is anxious to conclude negotiations for an external loan."

Further NPN Kickbacks Revealed
AB071825 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] More revelations have been made about the involvement of some political parties and government establishments in corrupt practices during the last civilian administration. Briefing media executives in Lagos today, the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, disclosed that a foreign construction company, Figuero Nigeria Ltd, won Federal Government contracts to the value of 746 million naira between 1978 and now. He said that the company paid out kickbacks amounting to about 7.5 percent to some important members of the proscribed National Party of Nigeria, NPN. Brigadier Idiagbon said that 10.7 million naira of the amount was paid in local currency while 13.5 million naira was paid in foreign currency.

The chief of staff revealed that other kickbacks worth about 2.4 million naira were paid to various staff of the National Youth Service Corps [NYSC] headquarters by one Mr Benjamin Adebola (Sikere), who won contracts from the NYSC. He stated that a former governor, whose identity he did not disclose, (made) 32 million naira on security alone and that investigations into the matter are continuing.

On political prejudice, Brig Idiagbon said that Alhaji Isiaku (Rabiyi), a Kano businessman, made a profit of 140 million naira from his (?trading) company in 1983. He stated that it was obvious that the award of contract was largely due to party prejudice.

Commenting [words indistinct], the chief of staff said latest figures from the Ministry of Finance show that Nigeria's total

external debts, including short-term paid arrears, stood at 11.1 billion naira as at the first of February this year. Internal indebtedness of the federal and state governments stood at 21.9 billion naira, out of which the Federal Government owed 17.1 billion naira while the state government owed about 4.8 billion naira.

Sale of Crude Oil to Ghana To Be Resumed

AB072019 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Nigeria is to resume the sale of crude oil to Ghana this month under an agreement signed between the two countries in Lagos. The agreement followed high-level talks between a Ghana Government delegation led by the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] coordinating secretary, Mr P.V. Obeng, and Nigerian officials. Ghana's secretary for defense, Rear Admiral Dzang, and Mr Tunde Machiru, director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, NNPC, signed for their respective countries.

Nigeria stopped oil sales to Ghana during the ousted Shagari administration as a result of Ghana's $150 million, that is 4.5 billion cedis, crude oil debt to Nigeria.

Mr Obeng later told the GHANA NEWS AGENCY that his delegation regarded the terms of the agreement very favorable in view of Nigeria's own present economic difficulties. Under the agreement, Ghana will make a minimal down payment spread over a 3-month period and the remaining balance settled over a period of 24 months. Sources close to the NNPC said the initial payment will be made 7 days after the signing of the agreement after which the lifting of oil to Ghana would begin under a 90-day credit facility. Observers believe that this agreement reflects the sympathy and understanding of the new Nigerian Government to the PNDC.

Other members of the delegation were Mr Appiah-Korang, secretary for fuel and power, and Colonel B. Tsetse of the Armed Forces.

Buhari Receives Two Outgoing Envoys 7 March

AB080812 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Two outgoing high commissioners to Nigeria, Lyle Williams of Trinidad and Tobago and Alfred Machayo of Kenya, yesterday paid a farewell visit to the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, at Gondah Barracks.

Speaking on the occasion, the head of state commended them for strengthening relations between Nigeria and their countries. The outgoing high commissioners thanked the Federal Military Government for the cooperation they received during their stay in the country.

More Vigorous Approach Pledged on W. Sahara

AB071430 Lagos International Service in English 1030 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Nigeria has pledged to use her membership of the OAU Implementation Committee on Western Sahara to secure a more vigorous approach to the problems of the territory. The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, made this pledge in Lagos when he received a special message from the Mauritanian leader, President Haydala. Gen Buhari said Nigeria believes in self-determination for the people of Western Sahara and noted with satisfaction Polisario's decision to keep away from the current OAU ministerial conference in Addis Ababa.

President Haydala has in the message, which was delivered by his minister of mines, industry, and tourism, Lieutenant Colonel Amadou Babaly, asked the Nigerian leader to use his influence to bring a meaningful solution to the Western Sahara problem.

Niger State Repatriates 84 Illegal Aliens

AB071640 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Eighty-four illegal aliens were repatriated to their various countries over the weekend by the Immigration Department in Niger State. The aliens were arrested in a joint police and immigration operation. The assistant director of operations, Alhaji Abdul Rashid Ibrahim, said in Minna that the exercise would continue. The assistant director denied that the repatriation exercise was directed against Ghanians alone. He said it was against all undesirable aliens from any country.

SENEGAL

Interior Ministry Refutes Mauritanian Exile's Charges

AB081001 Dakar PANA in French 1243 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Dakar, 7 Mar (APS-SENEGAL/PANA) — The Senegalese Ministry of the Interior yesterday issued a communique denying the allegations made by Aballahi Ould Sidya, a former Mauritanian minister and ambassador, who told the press that he had been arrested and maltreated in Senegal last January.

In a statement quoted by REUTER in a dispatch dated 28 February 1984, the former minister and diplomat said he was arrested in January in northeast Senegal and held in detention for more than 20 days at the Abdou Diasse police barracks in Dakar, where he was submitted to many rounds of questioning without being told why he was detained. He was then deported to France.

According to the Senegalese Interior Ministry, that statement is inadmissible, as it was made by a person who entered Senegal illegally and was, however, treated with high regard in a traditionally hospitable country which upholds human rights.

The communique issued by the Senegalese Interior Ministry gives an account of the facts which is totally different from Mr Sidya's account. After the events of 16 March 1980 in the Islamic

Republic of Mauritania, Ould Sidya and a number of his friends were accused by their country's legal authorities of being behind the abortive coup. Deported from Senegal in December 1980 for activities incompatible with his status as a refugee, Mr Sidya requested and obtained political asylum in France, where he said he had a residence. When he returned to Senegal, where he has a family and property, without the suspension of the deportation order, he had obviously violated the law. This fact alone justified his arrest and his trial.

However, Mr Sidya was treated with courtesy and in strict accordance with international conventions. As a matter of fact, after visiting his family and making sure that his property was safe, he was deported at his own request to a country of his choice, which in this case was France. Deporting him to Mauritania would have been fatal to him, as he has been sentenced to death in his country.

Senegal is hosting a large community of refugees from various countries and they are leading a peaceful life respecting the country's laws and regulations.

There can be no exception for Mr Sidya, who has never hidden his intention to continue to use our territory to foster subversion in his country, Mauritania, with which we make it a point to maintain good relations of friendship and good neighborliness.

Briefs

3 Ambassadors Present Credentials — Three new ambassadors accredited to Senegal today presented their credentials to President Abdou Diouf. They are: Raymond Mathieu of Haiti, Brigadier (Nuruzamon) of Bangladesh, and (Hoste Pereira Batista) of Guinea-Bissau. [Excerpt] [Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 5 Mar 84 AB]

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Sees No Need for RSA Nonaggression Pact

MB081007 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, received a message from Margaret Thatcher, British prime minister, in Luanda late this morning. The message, whose contents were not disclosed, is understood to be related to the present situation in southern Africa in light of the recent talks between members of the Pretoria government and Angolan officials, and the implementation of UN Resolution 435. After a careful reading of the message from the British prime minister, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos replied to the British ambassador accredited to our country, who carried the [words indistinct]:

[Begin Dos Santos recording] I want to say that I receive you, Mr Ambassador, at a time when the situation in southern Africa seems to be improving, [words indistinct] understanding between one of the [words indistinct] countries of the region bordering South Africa has been achieved. Therefore, it has enabled the relaxation of the tense situation which existed in our region.

We have stressed on a number of occasions that the People's Republic of Angola does not have borders with South Africa. The present physical contact between Angola and South Africa is a result of the fact that Namibia remains illegally occupied by the (?Government) of South Africa. We have been making efforts, together with the frontline states and the international community as a whole, to achieve a just solution for the Namibian question based on UN Resolution 435. If Namibia's independence can be attained under the terms of this resolution, then naturally the South African forces will move south of the Orange River. Angola will then have borders with an independent Namibia, and the security of that border will naturally be the object of understanding between the Government of Angola and the independent government of Namibia. The security of the border between the future independent state of Namibia and South Africa will naturally be the responsibility of the respective governments.

Although it has been following with great sympathy all efforts that have been made for the establishment of a *modus vivendi* between the countries of the region and South Africa, Angola regards itself as special case. (?Moreover), Angola does not feel the need to sign a nonaggression agreement with South Africa. We have been holding talks with South Africa and established that one of the first objectives was the withdrawal of the South African forces from our national territory. Certain understanding has been reached, and some concrete steps taken. We cannot say that the South African troops have left [words indistinct] our country altogether. They are still inside the country. Before they withdraw [words indistinct] and this first step will lead to the implementation of UN Resolution 435 and independence for Namibia. Should this objective be achieved we shall naturally have a more lasting climate of peace on the southern border of our country.

Naturally, we would also like the British Government to use its influence with South Africa so that the latter would in fact honor its commitments. There is no doubt that the understanding that has been achieved has not yet been strengthened. It is not solid yet; there is a long path to follow. Only if there is sincerity and an honest commitment from all parties will we be able to build the peace which is desired by all peoples of our region. Angola has taken such steps in the belief that it may serve, firstly, the interests of the Angolan people; secondly, the interests of the sovereign peoples of the region; and thirdly, the concern expressed by the international community with regard to the defense of international peace and security.

We believe that in a climate of peace it will be easier to develop cooperation, particularly bilateral cooperation with Great Britain. The latest talks we held with a British delegation have been fruitful, and we hope that what has been undertaken may be translated into concrete and practical action so that relations and bilateral cooperation between the two countries may be strengthened in the interest of the development of our respective peoples. Therefore, I ask you to convey to Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher the willingness of the Angolan Government to cooperate on the basis of mutual respect and sovereignty of each state and the reciprocity of mutual advantages. [end recording]

Dos Santos Receives Spanish Trade Official

MB081039 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, Angolan head of state, received in Luanda this morning Luis Velasco, Spain's secretary of state for trade, who has been in our country to hold talks with trade, banking, finance, and energy officials with a view to increasing trade exchanges between Angola and Spain. Luis Velasco will also discuss with the Angolan authorities the possibility of signing a financial protocol and granting a credit line to Angola of about $50 million.

Clemency Granted to 7 British 'Mercenaries'

MB071318 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Seven British nationals, who were tried and sentenced in 1976 for crimes against the Angolan people as part of a broad process that put an end to the myth of mercenaries, have recently been released. Mercenaries John Nammock, Malcom McIntyre, John Lawler, Colin Evans, Cecil Martin Fortuin, Kevin Marchant, and Michael Wiseman were granted clemency by the Government of the People's Republic of Angola. These people had been sentenced to jail terms ranging from 16 to 30 years during a court case on charges of conducting mercenary activities in Angola in 1976, in which (?13) mercenaries of various nationalities were sentenced to death and jail terms according to their personal involvement in the crimes against the Angolan people. Earlier, two other mercenaries, (?Gustav) and (Michael Parker), benefited from this clemency policy declared by the Angolan Government and were released.

The seven British nationals, [words indistinct] before leaving the city of Luanda, publicly condemned mercenary activities in any part of the world. This proves that the Angolan people have effectively been able to destroy the myth of mercenaries.

MPLA's De Almeida on Official Visit to Yugoslavia

AB071447 Luanda ANGOP in French 1115 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Luanda, 7 March (ANGOP) — Roberto de Almeida, secretary of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party for ideology, has been on an official visit to Yugoslavia since last Sunday at the invitation of the League of Yugoslav Communists, a communique published by the party's Department of External Relations has indicated.

Party Delegation To Attend Cyprus CP Conference

AB071445 Luanda ANGOP in French 1118 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Luanda, 7 March (ANGOP) — An MPLA-Labor Party delegation led by Domingos Afonso Neto, member of the Central Committee, is leaving Luanda today for Nicosia (Cyprus) where it will participate in the congress of the Communist Party of Cyprus from 9 to 11 March.

UNITA 23 Feb Raid on Kafunfo 'Colossal Victory'

MB071600 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0400 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The provinces of Cuanza Norte, Malanje, Luanda, Uige, and Luanda are under intense fire from the glorious Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola. This a truth that overwhelms the strident cries and the weak mutterings of the MPLA chieftains and their parrots of Luanda radio. The Angolan people, from Cabinda to Cunene and from Moxico to the sea [words indistinct] led by their vanguard party, UNITA, with the comrade president, General Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, at the helm. This is a reality that one cannot overlook. The overrunning of the enemy position at Kafunfo on 23 February 1984 is a hard blow for the minority and illegal Luanda regime in the military, economic, political and diplomatic fields. The colossal UNITA victory at Kafunfo alone totally discredited the insidious campaign of the MPLA chieftains, which is unsuccessfully trying to mislead the Angolan people and the international comunity with false war communiques in which they mention the high fighting spirit of the so-called People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] in the so-called campaign of annihilation of UNITA.

The resounding victory in Kafunfo destroyed the castle of lies built by the bad ANGOP bricklayers, and the chieftains had to concede defeat in their news broadcast. [words indistinct] The MPLA facade fell and the MPLA is without doubt completely discredited. In overtaking the enemy position at Kafunfo, the UNITA forces achieved the following results: the capture of 77 foreign technicians, including 16 Britons, 15 Filipinos, and 45 Portuguese nationals. We also captured 14 FAPLA soldiers, [words indistinct] Diamang trucks destroyed. UNITA forces also seized large quantities of diamonds that the foreign technicians were ready to send to Luanda. The 77 foreign technicians who were captured by UNITA at Kafunfo on 23 February face whatever UNITA finds most convenient to the defense of the [terao o destino que a direccao da UNITA achar convenience] interests of the Angolan people. Until they reach UNITA liberated areas, their survival will depend of the MPLA and Cuban behavior. It is, however, important to stress that the UNITA leadership has already warned the so-called FAPLA, the Cubans, and the countries interested in the release of the respective nationals that any intervention against the hostage column will cause serious consequences for these people.

BOTSWANA

BDP Officials Criticize Opposition Parties

MB071700 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The Botswana Democratic Party councillors have told villagers in (Sihito), (Toteng), (Kumana), and (Kgankgan) that the government assisted people in times of drought, whether the elections were there or not. The councillors were addressing political rallies in these villages, and they criticized opposition parties for taking advantage of the prevalant drought as a propaganda weapon against the Botswana Democratic Party [BDP]. Councillor (Phutheleho) said that before the 1979 general election the leader of the Botswana Independence Party, BIP, Mr Motsamai Mpho, said the BDP was handling the drought crisis accordingly, but now he was saying the BDP was taking advantage of the drought, distributing food to gain support.

He further pointed out that opposition parties in Botswana enjoyed the fruits of democracy under the BDP, but were now contradicting themselves. He said after the 1979 general election, secondary school students from the foot-and-mouth disease-hit areas were exempted from paying school fees.

Another speaker was Councillor (Maroka Lidimo), who said that the BIP had no manifesto and accused the Botswana National Front, BNF, of planning for a one-party state. He alleged that the BNF has said that only when they came to power would freedom of assembly be allowed to those who supported their principles.

MOZAMBIQUE

Veloso Reviews Terms of RSA Nonaggression Pact

MB071512 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 7 Mar 84

["From Rovuma to Maputo" — quotation marks denote recorded passages in Portuguese fading into English translation]

[Text] A nonaggression and good-neighborliness pact between Mozambique and South Africa is now close at hand. When the Mozambique delegation to the talks in Cape Town last Friday returned to Maputo, its leader, the minister in the presidency for

economic affairs, Jacinto Veloso, said the pact is to be signed very soon. He also (?referred) to other aspects concerning the pact.

[Veloso] "The Joint Monitoring Commission will have as its task to check that what we have achieved is being implemented. It will function for as long as is necessary."

Major General Veloso went on to say that the meeting he and his colleagues in the Mozambique delegation had with South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha was very important, as it was an opportunity to hear of South Africa's firm intention to achieve a nonaggression pact. The meeting with Mr Botha was very important, because it was necessary to create a climate of confidence favorable to the signing of the pact. General Veloso concluded by telling reporters at the Maputo airport that the date and venue for the signing ceremony had not yet been set:

[Veloso] "We can state that there is (?mutual understanding) in that we have to reach an agreement as soon as possible, although we cannot determine when."

What the two sides agreed on in Cape Town [words indistinct] by the heads of both delegations at the end of the meeting. Major General Veloso: "The two sides agreed on a principal aspect between nonaggression and good neighborliness between the two countries. The main content of the pact is that neither of the two countries should serve as a base for acts of aggression or violence against the other and that both states should undertake not to use (?the) territory of third states for these objectives."

After that statement General Veloso answered several questions put to him by journalists. (?One question) concerned the level of the presence of the ANC in Mozambique. "The level of the presence of the ANC in my country does not really interfere with what we are discussing. The essential point of the agreement is that the territory of my country will not serve as a base for violent actions against the territory of South Africa and vice versa. This is the central objective of our agreement of nonaggression."

General Veloso, speaking through an interpreter at a press conference in Cape Town.

Significance of Agreement Assessed

MB071958 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The People's Republic of Mozambique and the Republic of South Africa are on the verge of signing a nonaggression agreement. The terms of the agreement have already been accepted by both governments and all that remains is the actual signing. To understand the significance of this development it is first necessary to understand that for some years South Africa has been waging an undeclared war against Mozambique. One does not sign a nonaggression pact with one's friends. The significance, therefore, is that South Africa will be entering into a solemn agreement in terms of which the undeclared war must come to an end. This is long overdue.

South Africa gave military assistance to the Portuguese colonial regime to help it fight Frelimo in Mozambique's independence war. And according to the former South African intelligence agent Gordon Winter in his book "Inside BOSS" [RSA Bureau of State Security], Pretoria was involved in the establishment of the Mozambique National Resistance terrorist movement shortly after Mozambique's independence in 1975. In addition to attacks by South Africa's Mozambique agents, Mozambique has also been subjected to air and ground assaults carried out by the South African Armed Forces themselves. Throughout this period Mozambique's attitude toward South Africa has remained unchanged.

We deplore the apartheid system as a crime against humanity, and we give political, diplomatic, and moral support to the ANC. But Mozambique also considers that South Africa is a state, and this consideration reflects the fact that South Africa is a member of the United Nations. Mozambique, like the rest of the world, has to deal with South Africa as a state. This Mozambique has tried to do, but unfortunately our efforts have not until now been reciprocated. The South African state may have had its own reasons for this attitude, but as Foreign Minister Roelof Botha said in Cape Town last Friday, the discussions are about the future, not the past.

The agreement opens up a possibility for future peaceful relations between the two states. As long as apartheid exists, Mozambique cannot have friendly relations with South Africa, but we can have, and we intend to have, good-neighborly relations with South Africa. One can choose one's friends, but not one's neighbors.

France's Penne Brings Machel Message From Mitterrand

MB081130 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] President Samora Machel yesterday received a message from French President Francois Mitterrand delivered by his chief adviser for African affairs, Guy Penne, who is visiting Mozambique. President Samora was accompanied by Economic Affairs Minister Jacinto Veloso and Deputy Defense Minister Sergio Vieira, who have both been involved in the negotiations with South Africa on a nonaggression pact. The contents of the message from President Mitterrand were not disclosed.

Briefs

Netherlands Donates Aid — About 11,000 tons of corn donated by the Netherlands Government to our country were handed over in Maputo port today in a ceremony attended by Francisco de Assis Masquil, state secretary for supplies. This donation is a portion of the total of 37,000 metric tons of grain which the Government of the Netherlands has donated to our country as emergency aid to the drought and flood victims for the 1983-84 period. A total of 16 DAF trucks will arrive in Beira shortly. This was announced by the Netherlands charge d'affairs. The trucks will participate in the process of corn distribution in the three central provinces. This additional transport aid is estimated at 3 million Dutch florins, which is equivalent to

approximately 42 million meticals. [Excerpts][Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 7 Mar 84 MB]

Joint Portuguese Commerce Organization — Mozambique and Portugal are going to establish a joint chamber of commerce and industry. Americo Magaia, chairman of the Mozambique Chamber of Commerce, recently visited Portugal to discuss matters related to the creation of the Mozambique-Portuguese chamber. While in Portugal, Americo Magaia met with the organizing commission of the future Mozambique-Portuguese Chamber of Commerce and Industry. [Text][Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 7 Mar 84 MB]

NAMIBIA

Nujoma Denies SWAPO Holding Prisoners in Zambia

MB080910 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text]SWAPO is not holding prisoners in jails in Zambia. That's a denial from SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma in response to an allegation by the leader of the breakaway SWAPO-Democrats, Andreas Shipanga.

Shipanga claimed that Namibian prisoners are being held at a health and education center for Namibian refugees in Lusaka. Describing the claim as a lie, Nujoma says independent observers are welcome to inspect the center to verify his statement. He has also called for the immediate release of all Namibian prisoners held in South Africa and Namibia.

Security Forces Report Killing 5 SWAPO Insurgents

3 Die in Rietfontein

MB071340 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1333 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Windhoek, March 7, SAPA — Security forces in SWA/Namibia have shot and killed three SWAPO insurgents of a group of 14 who penetrated the Rietfontein area in the east of the territory, a spokesman for the security forces said in Windhoek today.

In past seasonal infiltrations into SWA/Namibia, SWAPO's military wing has been confined largely to the northern war zone in the territory, but the latest skirmish was fought in the south of the Herero communal land area close to SWA/Namibia's border with Botswana.

The latest SWAPO deaths bring to 41 the number of insurgents killed in the past 12 days, according to official statements.

A total of 800 insurgents pushed into SWA/Namibia from southern Angola in the last three weeks. They were understood to have crossed the border in a number of small groups over a wide frontier of more than 300 km, burying arms and equipment before mingling with the civilian population.

This year's infiltration campaign by SWAPO in the rainy season was seen as in anticipation of the closure of SWAPO operational bases in Angola, if the present disengagement operations succeed by the Joint Monitoring Commission between South Africa and Angola.

There has been talk in Windhoek that in view of the SWAPO thrust into SWA/Namibia, South Africa was considering a suspension of the Lusaka accord with Angola. Alternatively, it was said South Africa would bring pressure to bear on the Angolan delegation in the JMC to ensure that Angola carried out its part of the Lusaka agreement concerning SWAPO activity.

Approached for comment, an official spokesman said: "South Africa thinks the proceedings of the Joint Monitoring Commission have reached a very sensitive stage and it does not want to comment."

SWAPO said in statements to the media that it would respect the disengagement proceedings in southern Angola, but the war in SWA/Namibia would continue.

Additional Details

MB071727 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Security forces in South-West Africa have shot and killed 3 SWAPO insurgents of a group of 14 who had infiltrated the Gobabis area. The terrorists were killed near Rietfontein, and their deaths bring to 41 the number of insurgents killed in the past 12 days. About 800 insurgents have pushed into South-West Africa from southern Angola in the last 3 weeks. They are understood to have crossed the border in small groups over an area of more than 300 km, bearing arms and equipment before mingling with the civilian population.

A police spokesman said in Windhoek today that follow-up operations were in progress, and that the situation in the Gobabis area was under control. Security forces suffered no casualties.

2 More Deaths Reported

MB081312 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Police in Windhoek have announced that another 2 terrorists out of a group of 14 were at large in the area northeast of Gobabis were shot dead by the security force yesterday afternoon. Three other terrorists from the same group were shot and killed last Tuesday. The security force was continuing with its follow-up operation against the remaining nine terrorists.

RSA Charged With Illegally Holding Internees

MB071250 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 7 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] Windhoek — At least 100 women and children are being held "illegally" by South Africa at a top-secret internment camp

at Mariental, 258 km south of Windhoek, according to court papers.

Twenty-three applicants yesterday brought an action against the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, the administrator general of South West Africa, Dr Willie van Niekerk, the head of the SWA Territory Force, General George Meiring, and Major G. Coetzee, the officer commanding Mariental military detention camp, in an attempt to secure the release of 38 internees "abducted" from Angola by the SADF almost six years ago.

Attorneys acting for the 23 applicants, who include three prominent clergymen, said in the application that the "persons were unlawfully captured by the South African Defence Force in Angola in May 1978." The attorney acting for the applicants, Mr David Smuts, said in his affidavit to the Supreme Court that the internees were being held "contrary to international law."

In response to inquiries by Mr Smuts, Colonel J. Agenbacht had said the internees were being held in terms of Security Proclamation AG9. But, Mr Smuts replied, AG9 does not apply to the Mariental district.

The application for the first time makes public details of the top-secret camp. The camp has also recently been the focus of a concerted campaign by Amnesty International demanding the release of South Africa's "undeclared prisoners of war."

The internees at Mariental, according to court papers, were captured by the SADF during the devastating raid on the SWAPO headquarters in Cassinga in May 1978. SWAPO said at least 300 people — largely women and children — were "missing" after the raid, while the SADF said it had killed over 1,000 guerrillas in the raid.

Among the 23 applicants are Bishop Klepas Dumeni, bishop of the 33,000 strong Evangelical Lutheran Ovambo Kavango Church, Bishop James Kauluma, Anglican bishop of Namibia and president of the Council of Churches in Namibia, and Bishop Bonafatius Kaushiku, Catholic bishop of Windhoek.

In an affidavit, former internee Mr Benedictus Shilongo, captured at Cassinga and released about six weeks later, alleged he was assaulted and given electric shocks by members of the SADF while held at Sohakati. And Mr Simon Shilongo told of how he had seen his sister, Frederika, at the Mariental camp in November last year. She had told him "at the moment there are among others, more than 100 young women being held at Mariental under similar circumstances."

Mr Smuts, on behalf of the applicants, has asked the Supreme Court that the four repondents produce all the internees named, state on what charges they are being held, explain why they are being detained, and release them from the camp.

The four respondents have until March 27 to oppose the application, which will be made to the Windhoek Supreme Court on March 30.

DTA Leader Calls on SWAPO To Join Conference

MB080939 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] The president of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, Mr Kuaimo Riruako, said the independence of South-West Africa/Namibia was not subject to the will of SWAPO. He called on SWAPO to take part in the deliberations of the multiparty conference, and added that the conference would not sit idly by in the absence of SWAPO.

Mr Riruako said that with the cooperation of the world at large, the people of the territory were of the opinion that the time had come for their independence.

PLAN Claims Attack on S. African Base in Northwest

EA071314 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] The combatants of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, PLAN, the military wing of SWAPO, have attacked a big South African base at Okua in Kaoko in northwestern Namibia.

According to residents of the Okua township, it was about 2200 on Friday night when they heard what sounded like thunder. It was subsequently established that it was in fact mortars that had been fired at the base by SWAPO freedom fighters. According to the residents, approximately 30 mortar shells fell on the racist South African military base. Okua is the administrative center of Kaoko and has a large military base of the South African troops.

SOUTH AFRICA

RSA-Mozambique Nonaggression Pact Signing 16 Mar

MB081448 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1445 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Cape Town, March 8, SAPA — The non-aggression pact between South Africa and Mozambique will be signed by the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and President Samora Machel on Friday, March 16. The signing of the agreement, to be known as the "Accord of Nkomati," will take place on the border between South Africa and Mozambique, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, announced in Cape Town today.

It had been agreed that the South African prime minister and President Machel of the People's Republic of Mozambique would meet on the border between their countries to sign "the joint agreement on non-aggression and good neighbourliness," the statement said. The signing ceremony would take place during the morning of Friday, March 16.

The meeting between the two leaders will culminate months of delicate negotiations conducted in secret at first between working parties in a flurry of shuttle diplomacy and during the past few weeks between delegations led at ministerial level.

Johannesburg Views Dos Santos Comments on Pact

MB081010 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] President dos Santos of Angola says his country doesn't feel the necessity of signing a non-aggression pact with South Africa on the lines of the one between South Africa and Mozambique. The president told the British ambassador to Angola, Mr Goulding, in Luanda that Angola was nevertheless following with sympathy the present efforts towards a *modus vivendi* between South Africa and its neighbors.

The official Angolan news agency, ANGOP, reported that President dos Santos said Angola's first objective in its contacts with South Africa was the withdrawal of South African forces from its territory. He said that was a process which had not yet been completed. He added that he hoped the withdrawal would lead to independence for South-West Africa.

The South African minister of finance, Mr Owen Horwood, has said in the meantime that the Government of South Africa would like to see South-West Africa independent because the people in that country had said they wanted independence.

Mr Horwood said in a BBC interview that there was also a connection between the cost of South Africa staying in South-West Africa and the latest moves by South Africa to withdraw its presence.

Mr Horwood, who was on a visit to Europe and Britain, said if a withdrawal from South-West Africa would mean an abatement in the amount that South Africa was having to spend in the territory each year, then it would be good, because the amount was extremely large.

The minister added that South Africa hoped the machinery that had been set in motion would contribute towards peace so all parties could get on with the constitutional development of the territory.

Labor Party Seen Supporting New Constitution

MB071358 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Our Colored affairs representative reports that the rally in Welkom of caucus members of the Labor Party from the Transvaal, Free State, Northern Cape, and Eastern Cape has brought about a better understanding of the new constitutional dispensation. The leader of the Labor Party, the Reverend Alan Hendrickse, and party provincial leaders played a key role in achieving this. About 900 delegates attended the rally, described as a milepost in Colored politics. Our representative said delegates had expressed strong support for the new constitutional dispensation and had rejected boycott tactics. The registration of Coloreds with the view to the election in August had also been high on the list of discussions.

Ministers Say Separate Residential Areas To Remain

MB081150 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] The opening of central business districts will not lead to the abolition of separate residential areas for the respective population groups in South Africa. This statement was made on television yesterday evening by the minister of community development, Mr Kotze, and the minister of cooperation and development, Dr Pieter Koornhof.

Mr Kotze said that exclusive residential areas and exclusive community lives for Coloreds and Indians were basic tenets of government policy. A decision in principle had been taken in this respect as early as 1979 after the appearance of the report of the (Riekerd) Commission. In terms of the policy, all central business districts will not be open to all population groups, but only specially demarcated districts in cities and towns. He said the report of the Strydom Committee made recommendations concerning how and where business districts should be demarcated.

Dr Koornhof said the opening of business districts would not lead to the ousting of whites by blacks because they were already present in white business districts. Dr Koornhof said he believed it would lead to a greater congregation of blacks in their own areas as a result of the greater interest in their own business initiative.

ZAMBIA

Exports To Be Developed; MP Criticizes Government

MB071150 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The minister of commerce and industry is evolving aggressive policies aimed at developing the country's export trade. Commerce and Industry Minister Leonard Subulwu said in parliament yesterday that his ministry, in consultation with the minister of finance, will continue to search for additional incentives for export and devise methods to make use of returned foreign exchange easier for exporters. Speaking when he wound up debate on estimates of the expenditures for his ministry, Mr Subulwa pointed out that the country has been dependent on copper earnings for its foreign exchange in the past few years to sustain the economy. He said the ministry's aim was to develop non-mineral exports to earn the country foreign exchange.

The government has been criticized for paying lip service toward its industrial and commercial policies. Member of parliament for Kanyama Alfayo Hambayi has charged that there was a large gap between government policy objectives and what was actually being achieved. Mr Hambayi said it was worrying that, although the intention of the government in supporting local manufacturers was clear, one sees discrepancies in the execution of the objectives. He cited an example of the government's frequent talk of foreign exchange constraints and its failure to support local manufacturers; yet it imports goods which could be manufactured locally. Mr Hambayi also pointed out the lack of commitment to export promotion by the government, adding that although the government announced export incentives, like

retention of a percentage of export earnings by exporters, this had not been the case.

Soviet Delegation Arrives in Kitwe for Tour

MB080810 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] The 3-man Soviet delegation currently visiting Zambia arrived in Kitwe today for a tour of the mining installations on the Copperbelt. The team is expected to tour the Nchanga open pit and other mining installations in Chingola tomorrow. The Soviet delegation, led by member of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party Oleg Semenovich Miroshkhin, is expected to return to Lusaka tomorrow, and is scheduled to visit Livingstone before returning to Moscow on Monday.

ZIMBABWE

Steps Taken To Distribute Food in Matabeleland

MB081220 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] The minister of home affairs, Comrade Simbi Mubako, says the government has received reports that some areas of Matabeleland South are not getting sufficient food supplies to counter drought conditions in the region. Therefore, and in accordance with the previous curfew instructions, the serving commanders will take measures to ensure that food supplies reach the people there.

Comrade Mubako also said while paying due attention to the expediencies of security, the forces will permit shops and groceries to open at least twice a week and to make it easy for the social service officials to distribute drought relief at suitable centers. He said the commissioner of police and army commanders are already in the area to inspect the situation.

Trade Protocol Signed With Angola on Beef Exports

MB081140 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Zimbabwe is to export 4,000 tons of beef worth 5.6 million dollars to the People's Republic of Angola. The trade protocol involving exports of beef from Harare to Luanda over the next 5 years was already signed between the Cold Storage Commission and the Angolan importing agency.

A joint statement issued by the Angolan Embassy in Harare said the Cold Storage Commission said contractual details for the first 6 months of this year have already been completed. The statement said discussions are scheduled to be held for the second 6 months of the year, and it is hoped similar contract arrangements will be agreed upon. It also said this represents the largest single contract order secured by a Zimbabwean corporation in Angola, and it reenforces the growing economic relationship between the two countries.

The signing of the trade protocol follows a visit to Zimbabawe made last December by an Angolan delegation, as well as the one undertaken by officials of the Cold Storage Commission to that country.